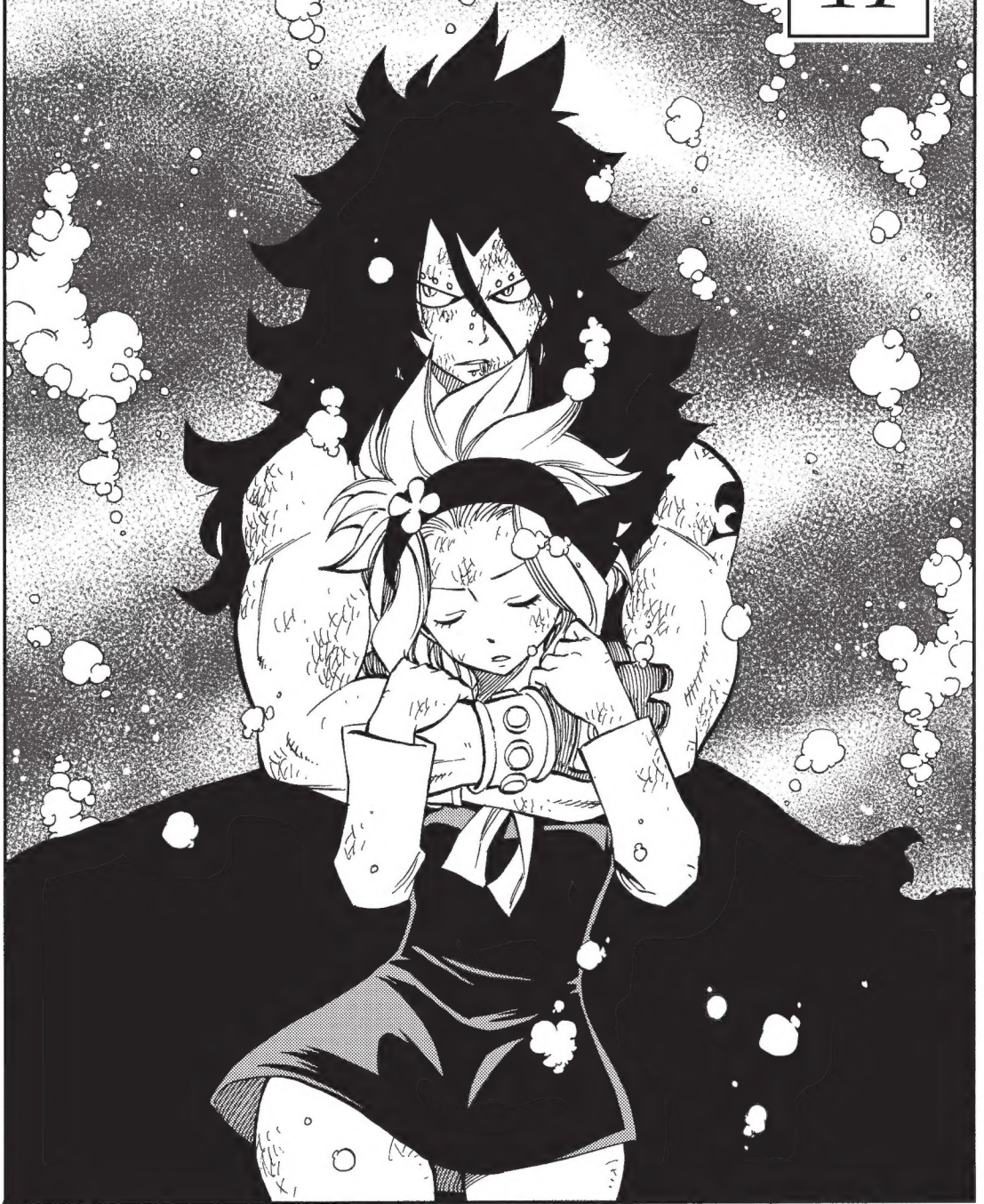




Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL

47



HIRO MASHIMA



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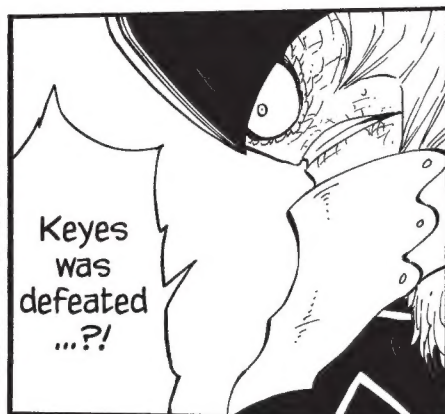
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FAIRY TAIL

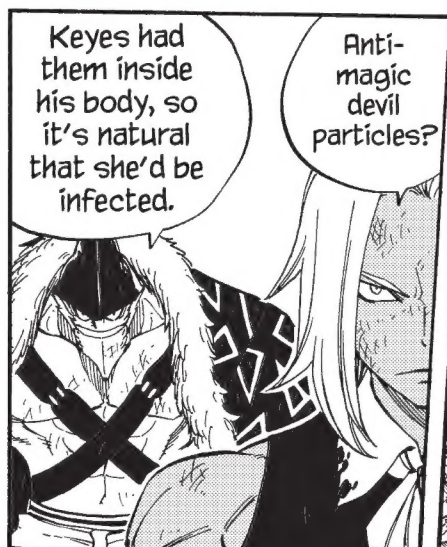
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 395: Tartaros Arc, Part Five: Ultimate Pain





Keyes
was
defeated
...?!

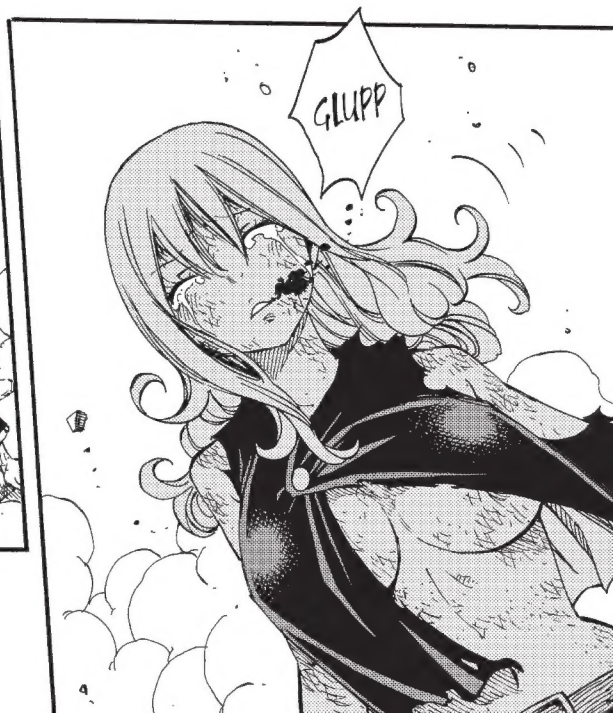


Keyes had
them inside
his body, so
it's natural
that she'd be
infected.

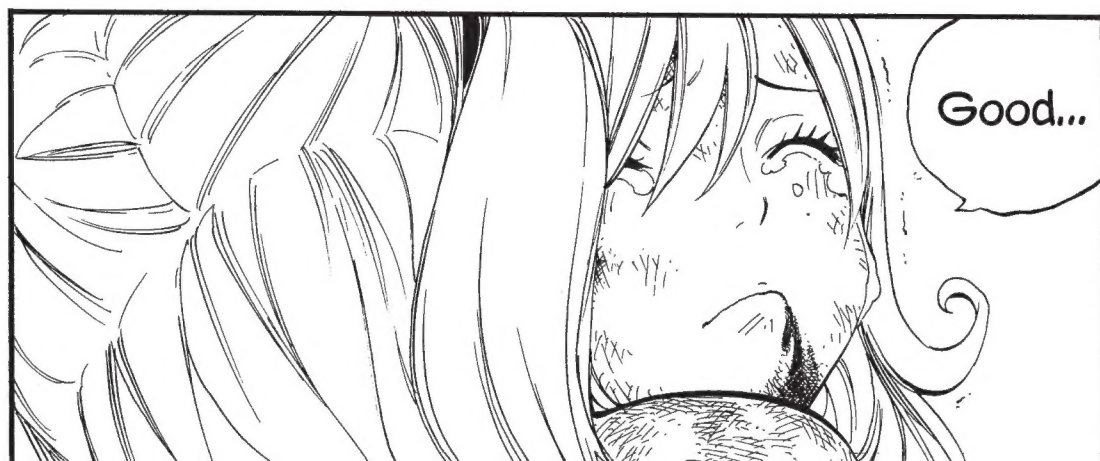
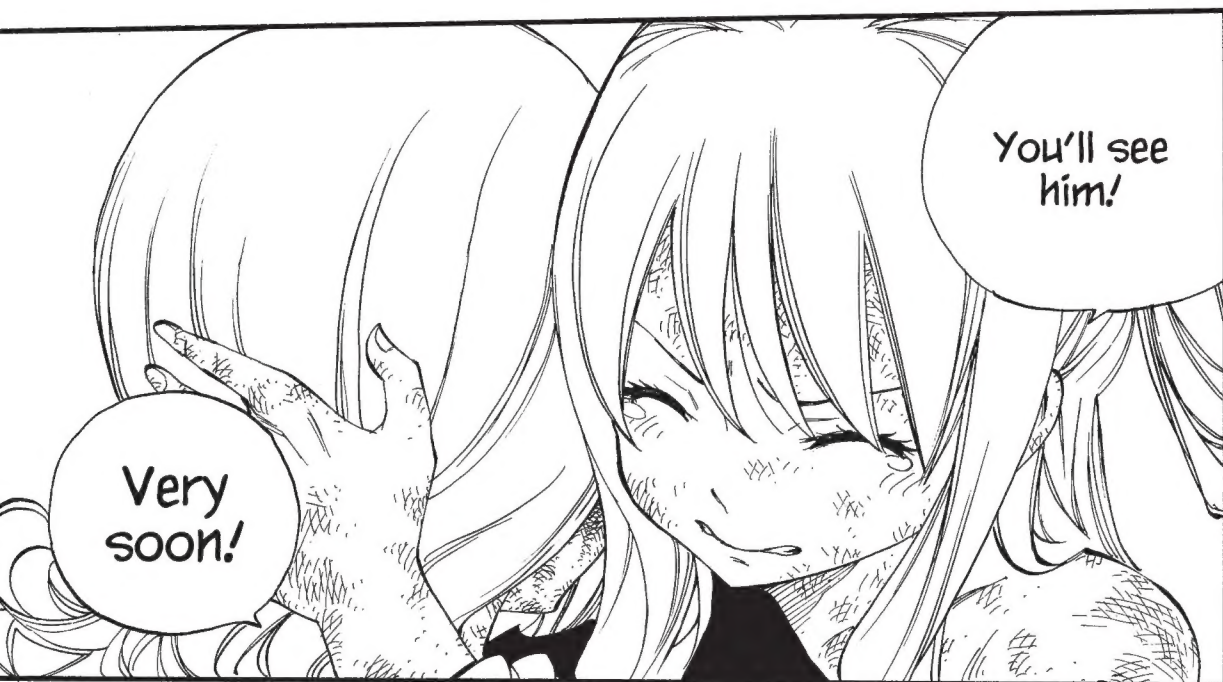
Anti-
magic
devil
particles?

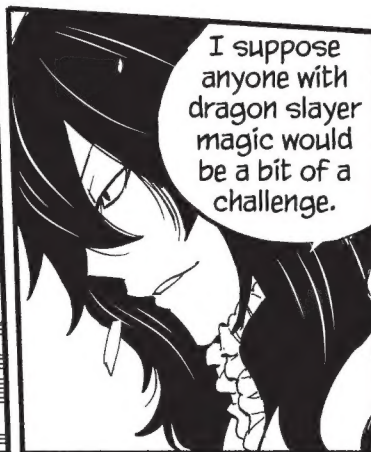


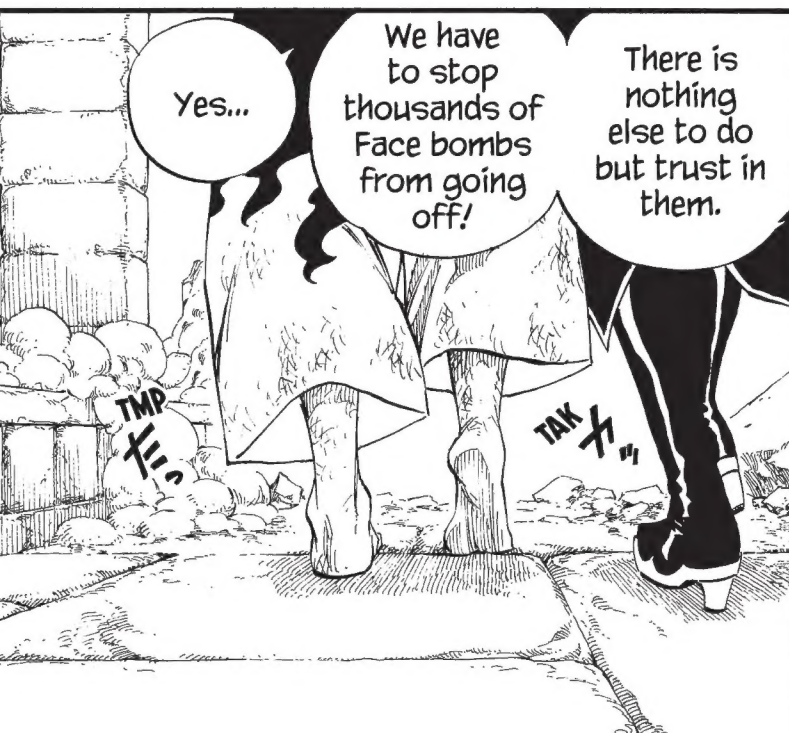
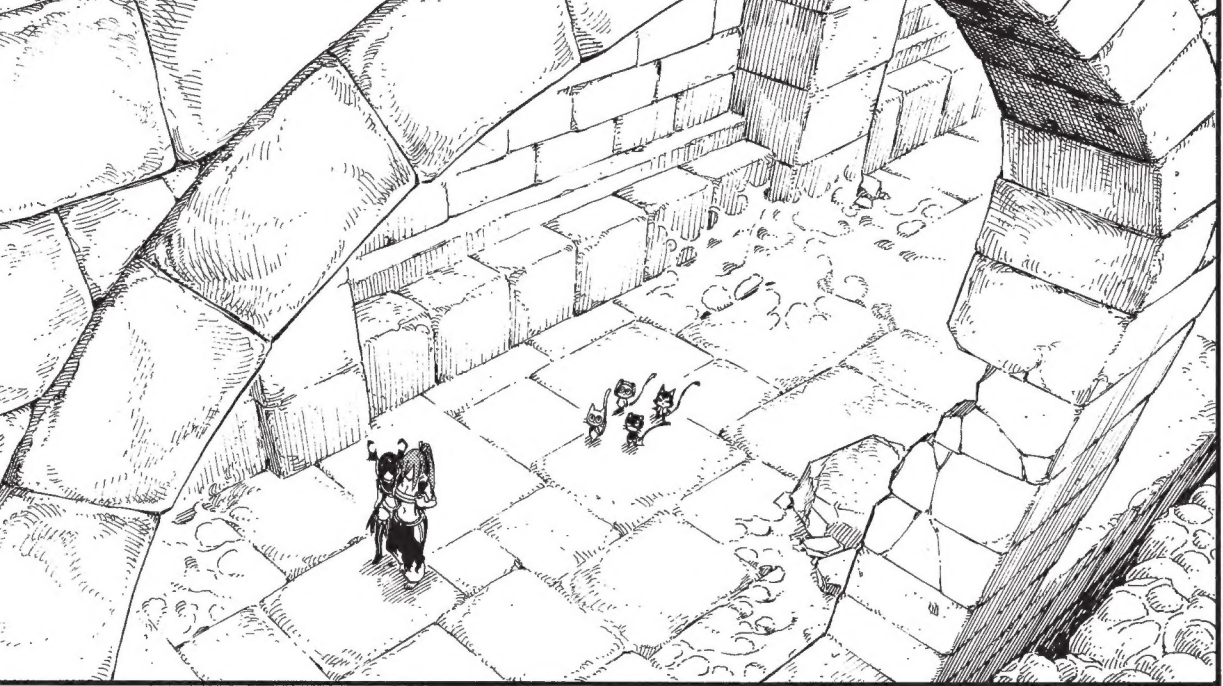
Juvia!!

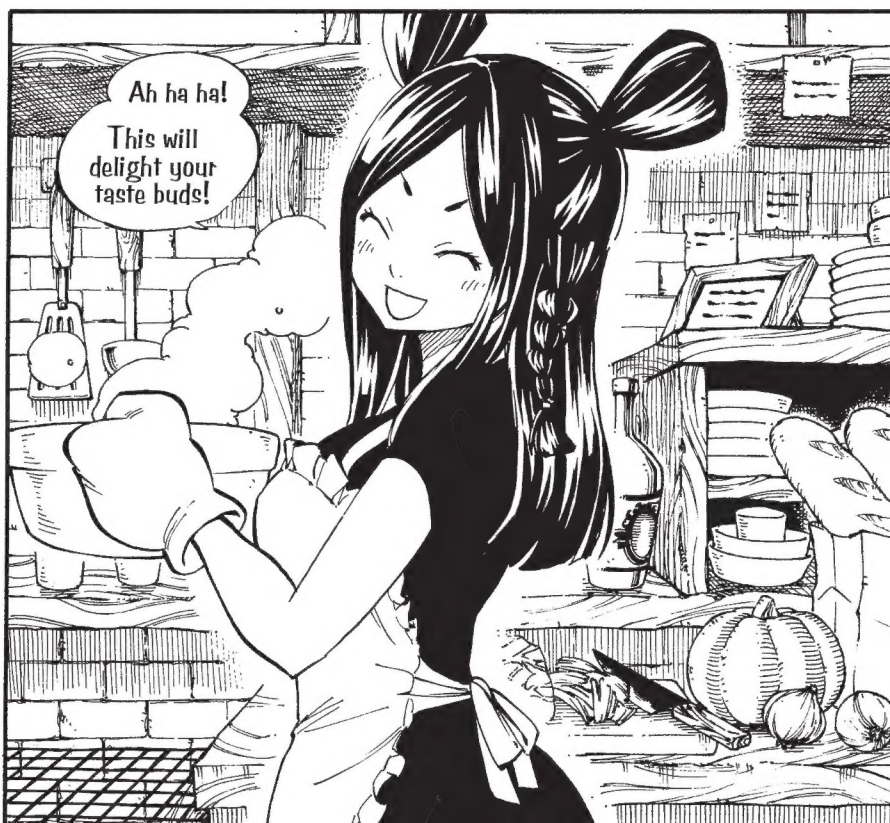
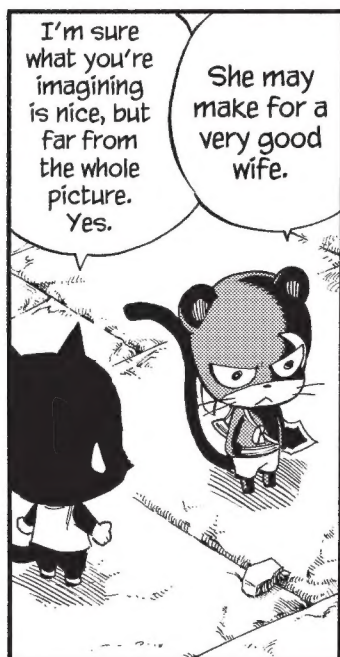
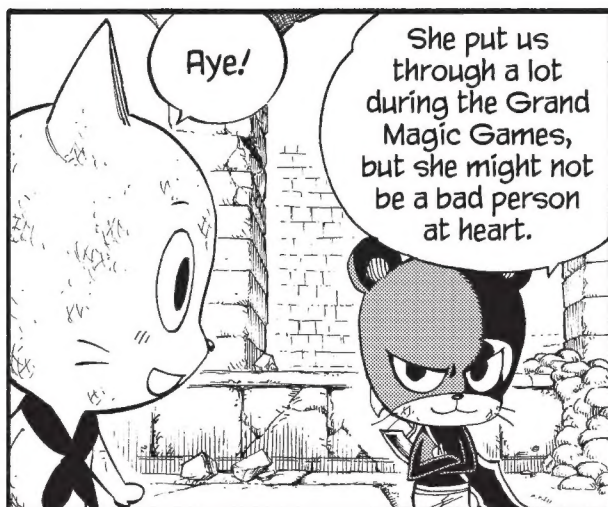


GLUPP











Yes, and Erza-san is quite a force to be reckoned with as well!

Fro thinks so also!

Beg your pardon.

Aye!



Do not dally, or you will be left behind!

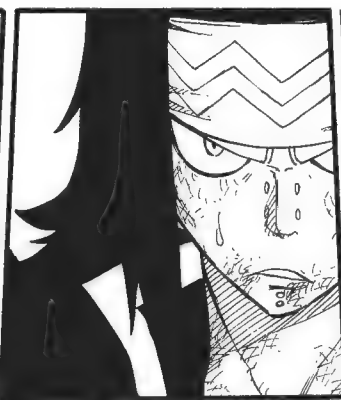
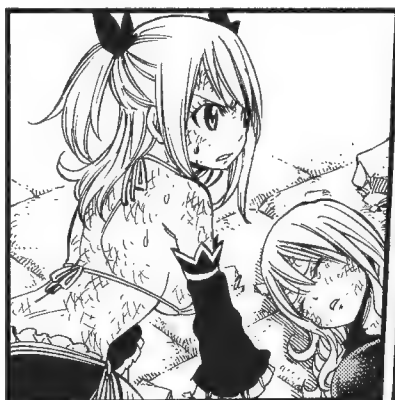
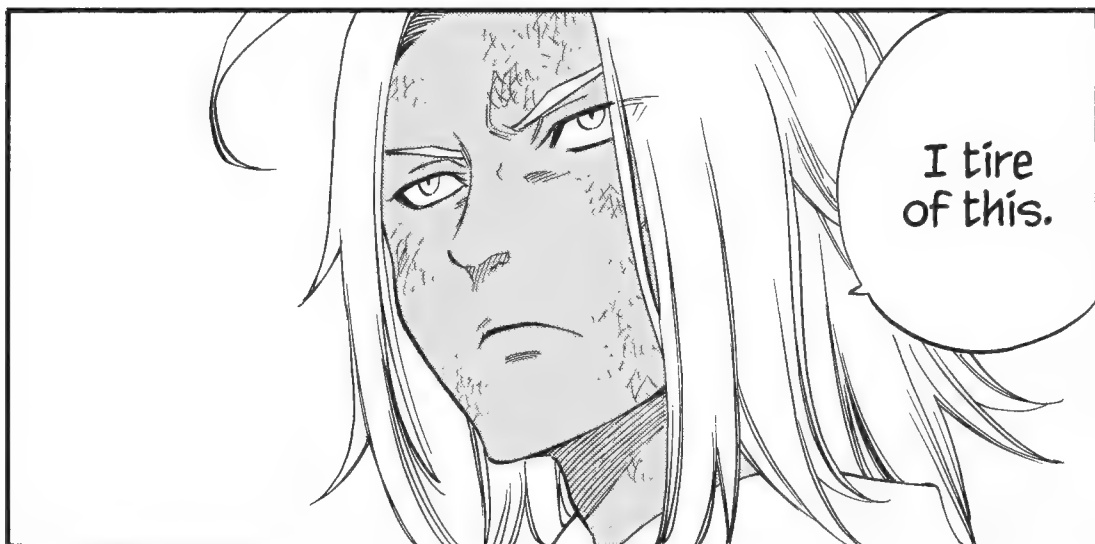


Gajeel...

I hope you're all right...



I think it's about time we finished these guys off!





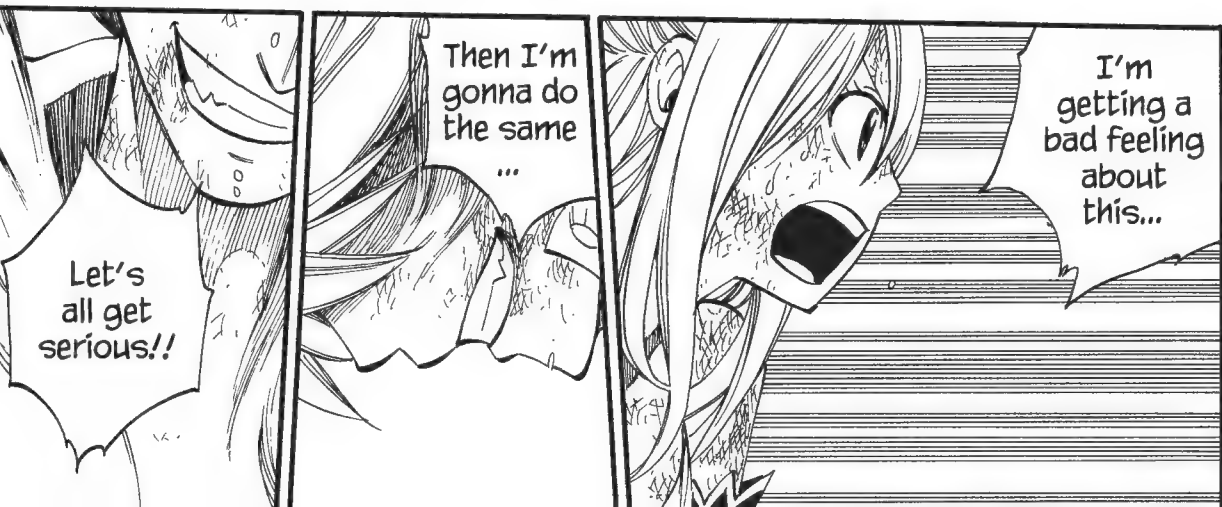
...our true
powers as
demons of
the Book of
Zeref!!

We won't be
able to destroy
them unless we
use...



...to get
serious
!!!

Time
for
us...



Let's
all get
serious!!

Then I'm
gonna do
the same
...

I'm
getting a
bad feeling
about
this...



**ETHERIOUS
FORM!!!!**

BOOOOM



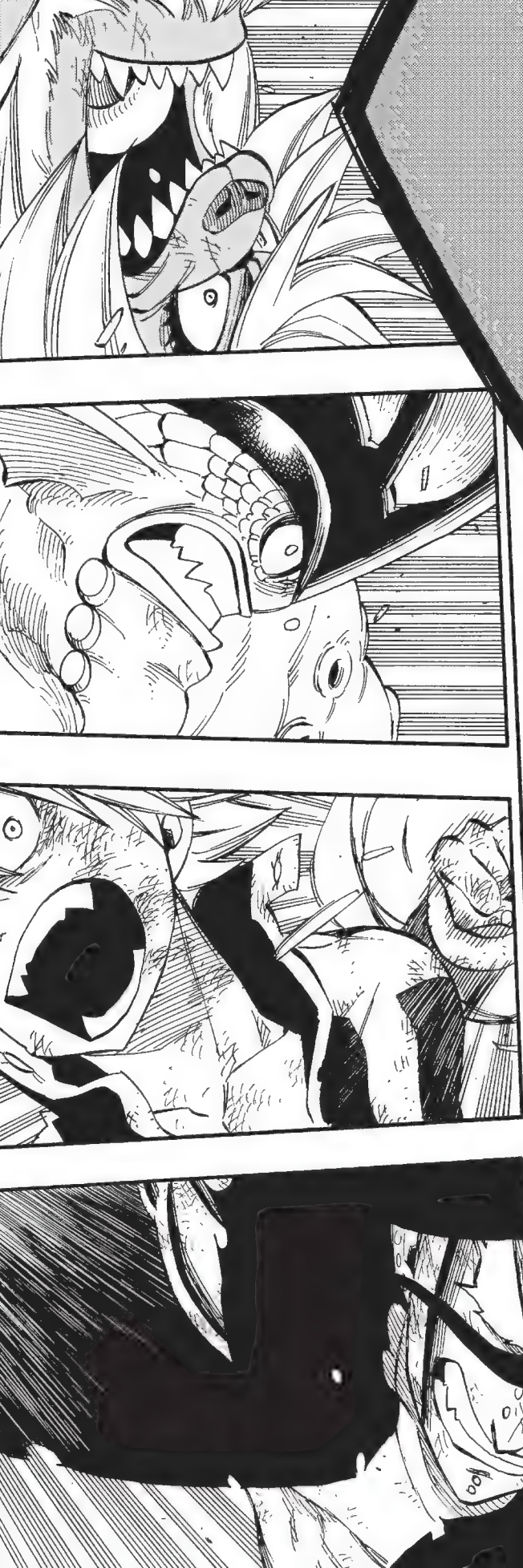
**RAIEN-
RYŪ*
MODE!!!!**

BOOM

**TETSUEI-
RYŪ**
MODE!!!!**







**I'm takin'
mine out
first!!!!**

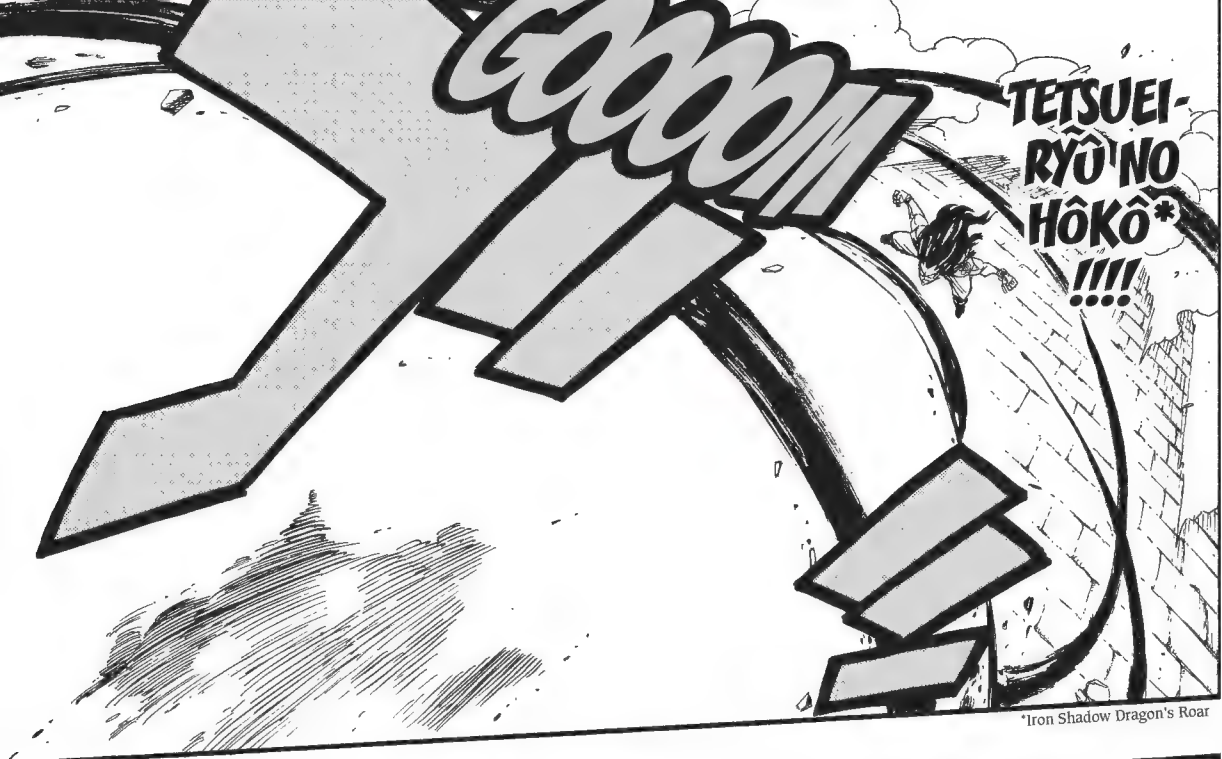
GOO

OOM



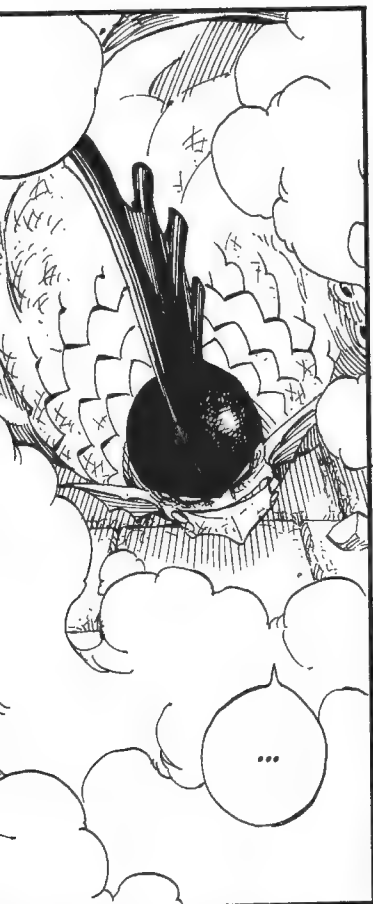
*Blazing Depth-Charge Sword





*Iron Shadow Dragon's Roar





I don't
get it.

B
W
A
A
A
H
?!!!



I'M
GONNA
BEAT
YOU!!!!

GRIN

NCH



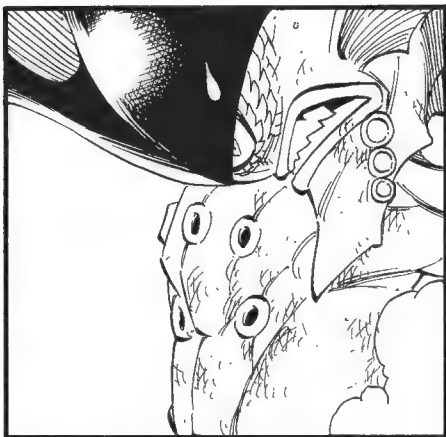
 FAIRY TAIL

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 396: Air





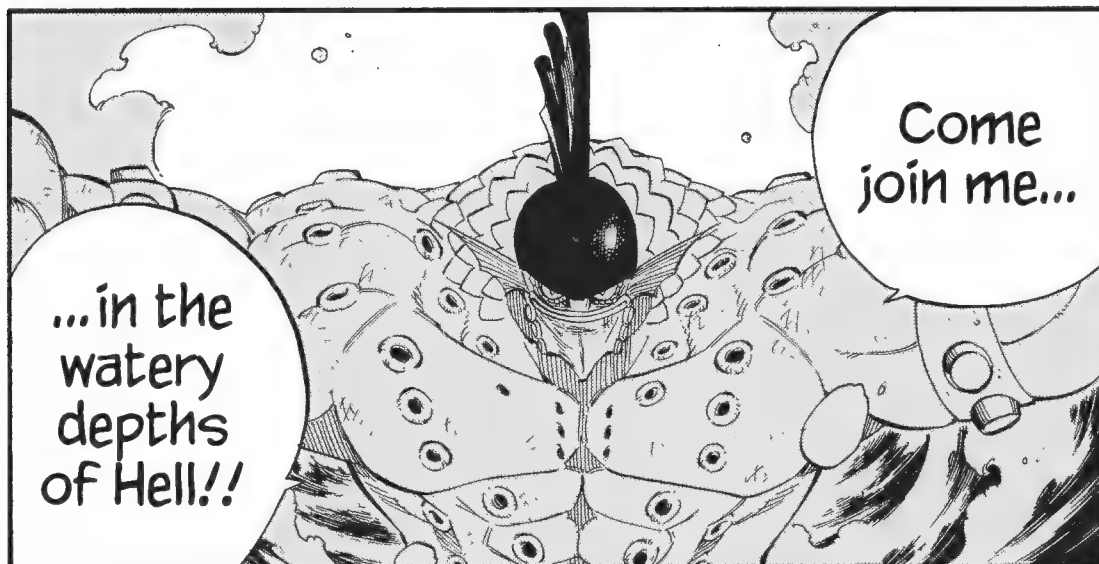
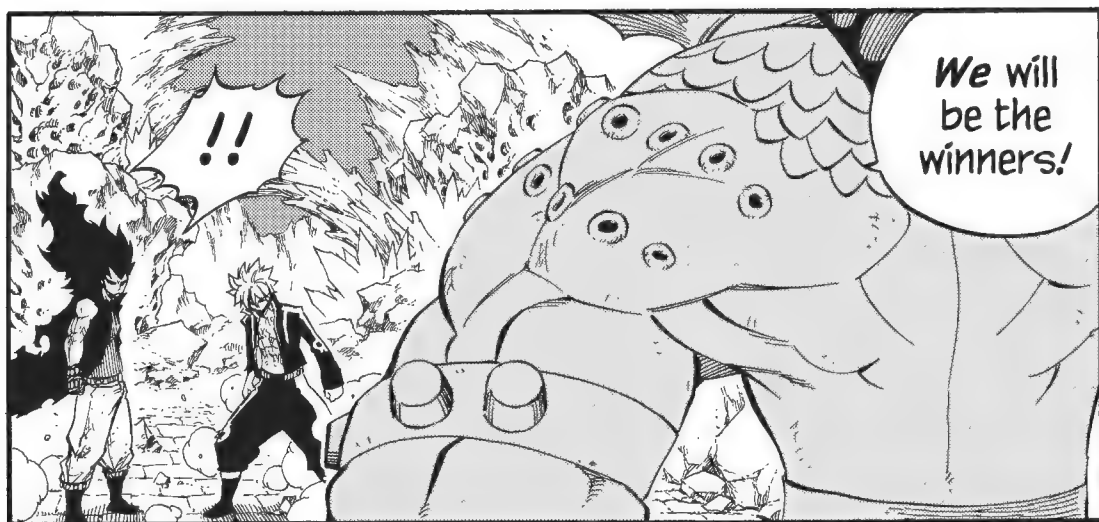
Of all the times to squabble... Cut it out, guys!

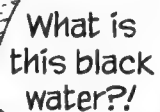
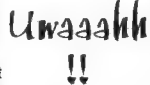
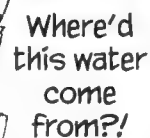
Urk! Yeah, well, a *kid* could punch harder than you!

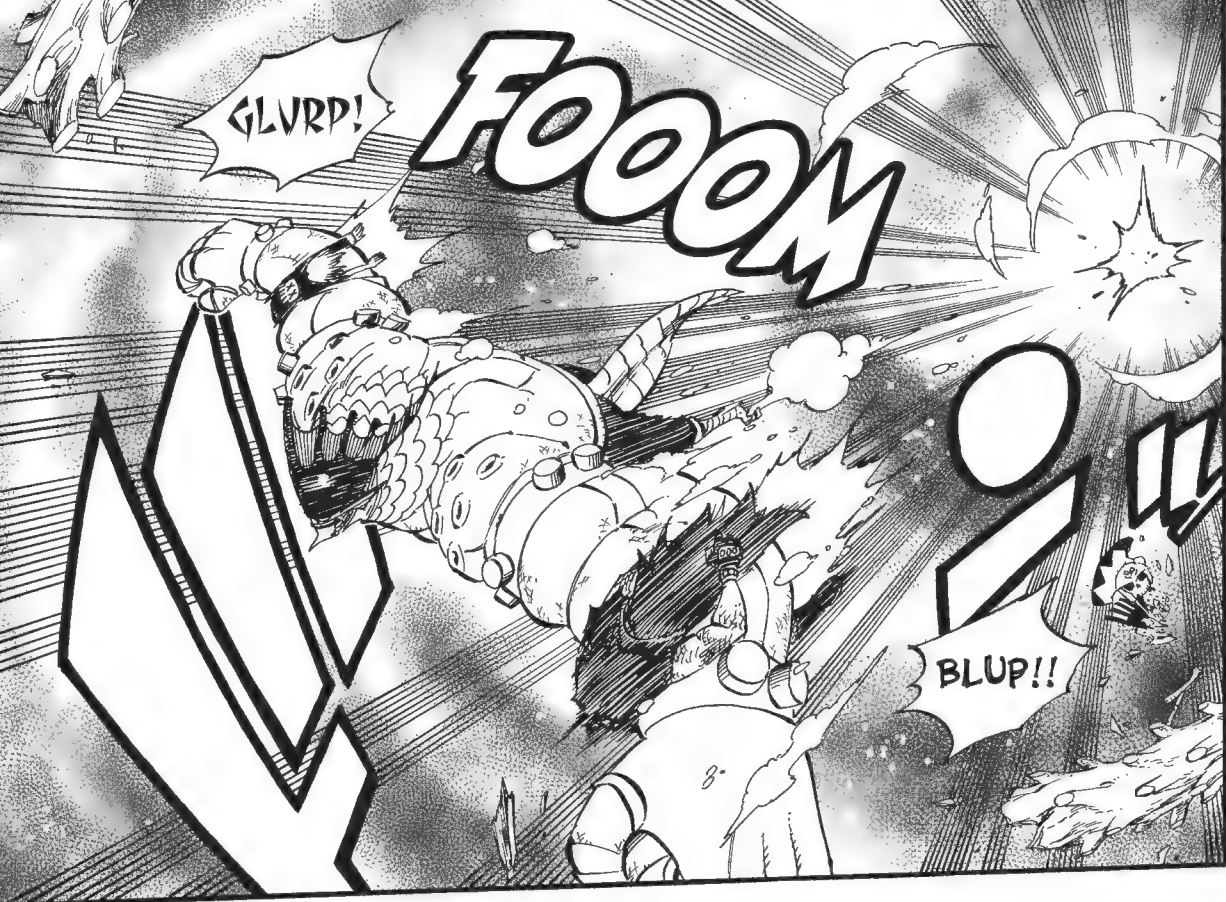
You got that right! I hardly even felt it!!

C'mon! That was just a tap!!

What's yer damage, ya jerk?!!!!







My fire
won't
light!!



Salamander!!
Get the girls
and find some
way outta this
water!!!



And the
other one
is just
watching
?!

They think
we'll go
down that
easy?!



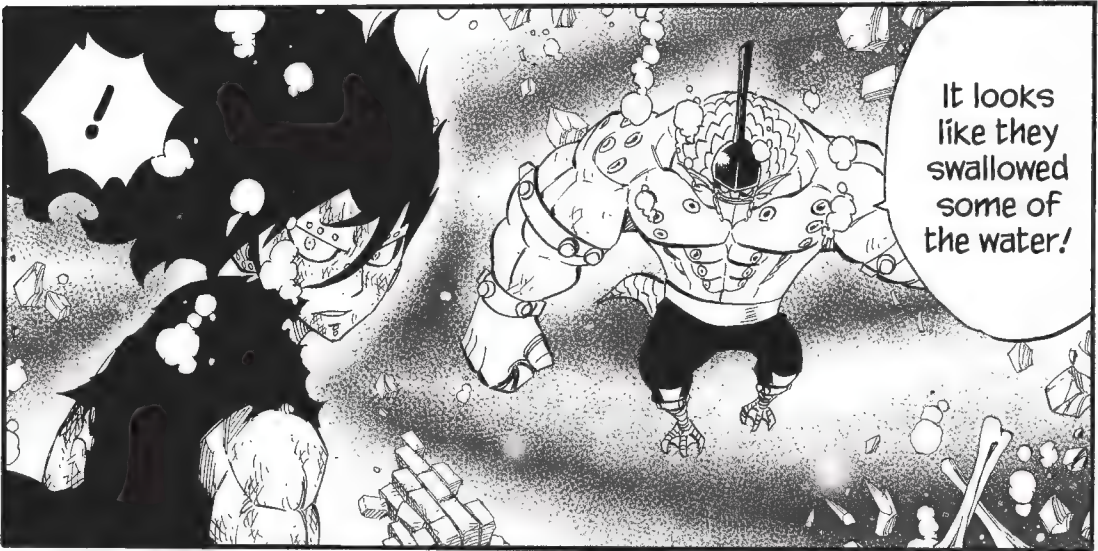
Awful fast
in the water,
ain't he?!

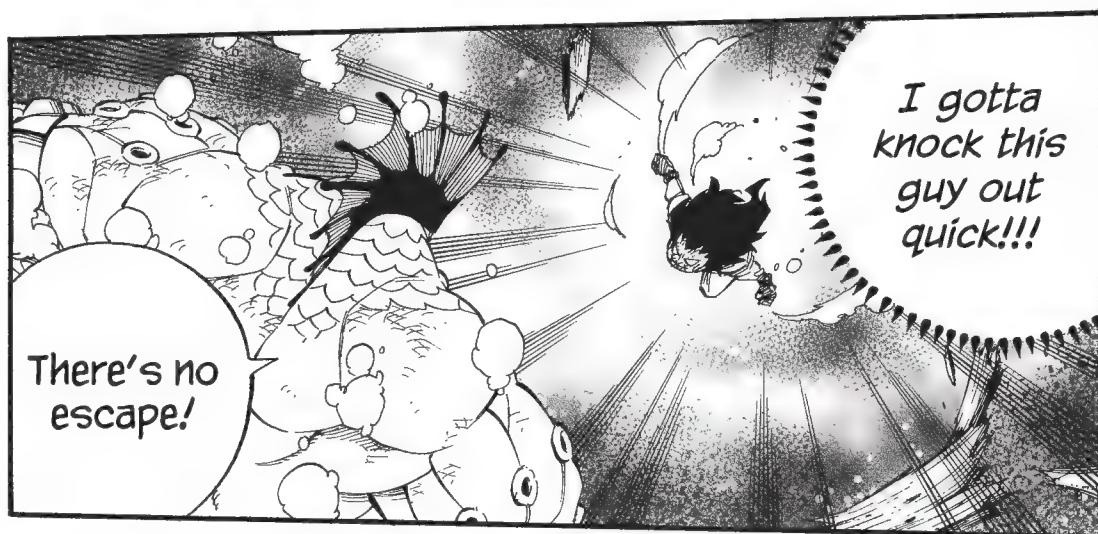
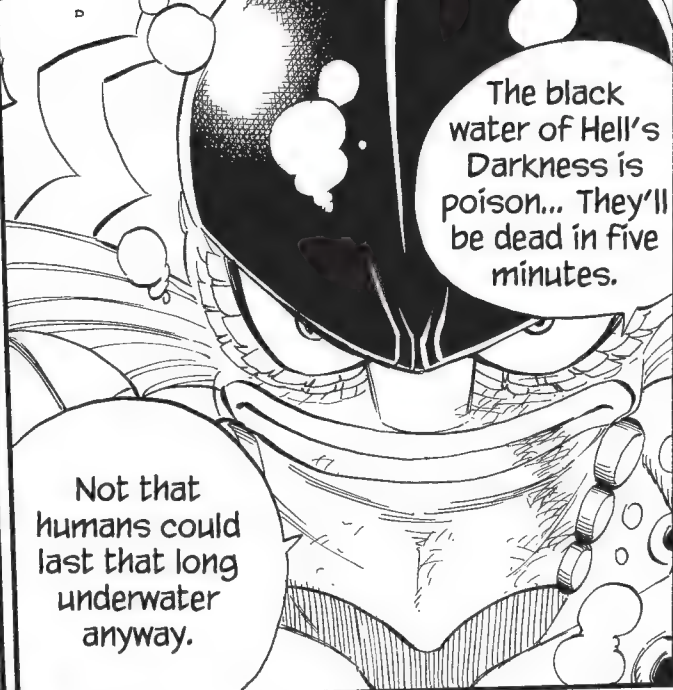
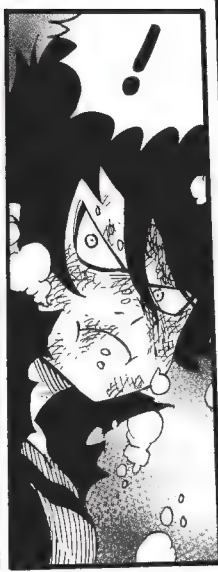


GA-

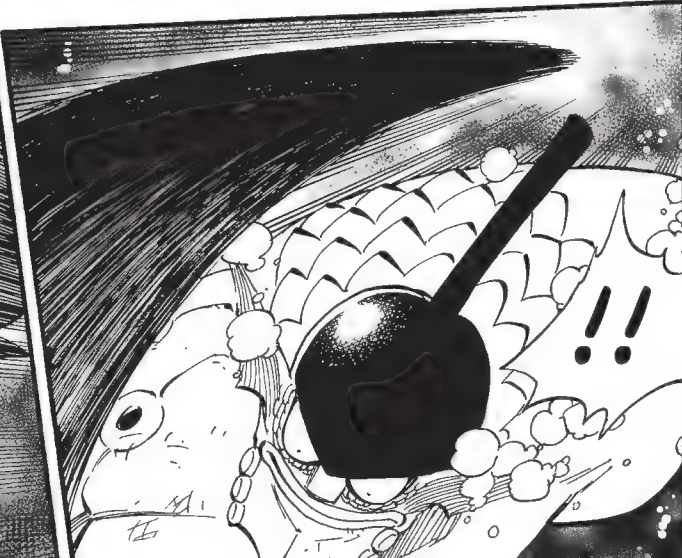
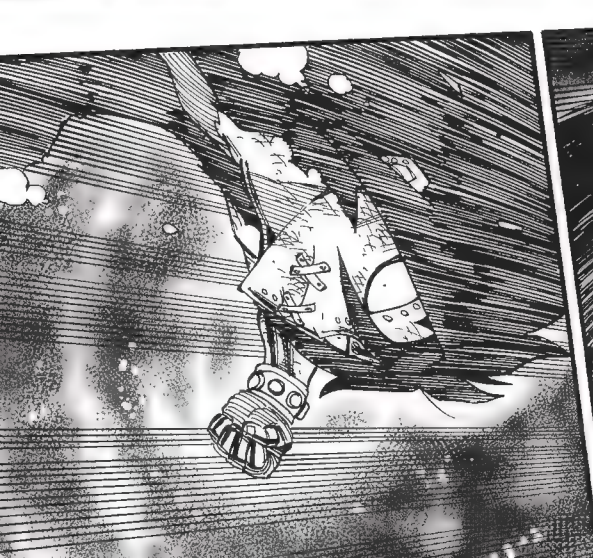
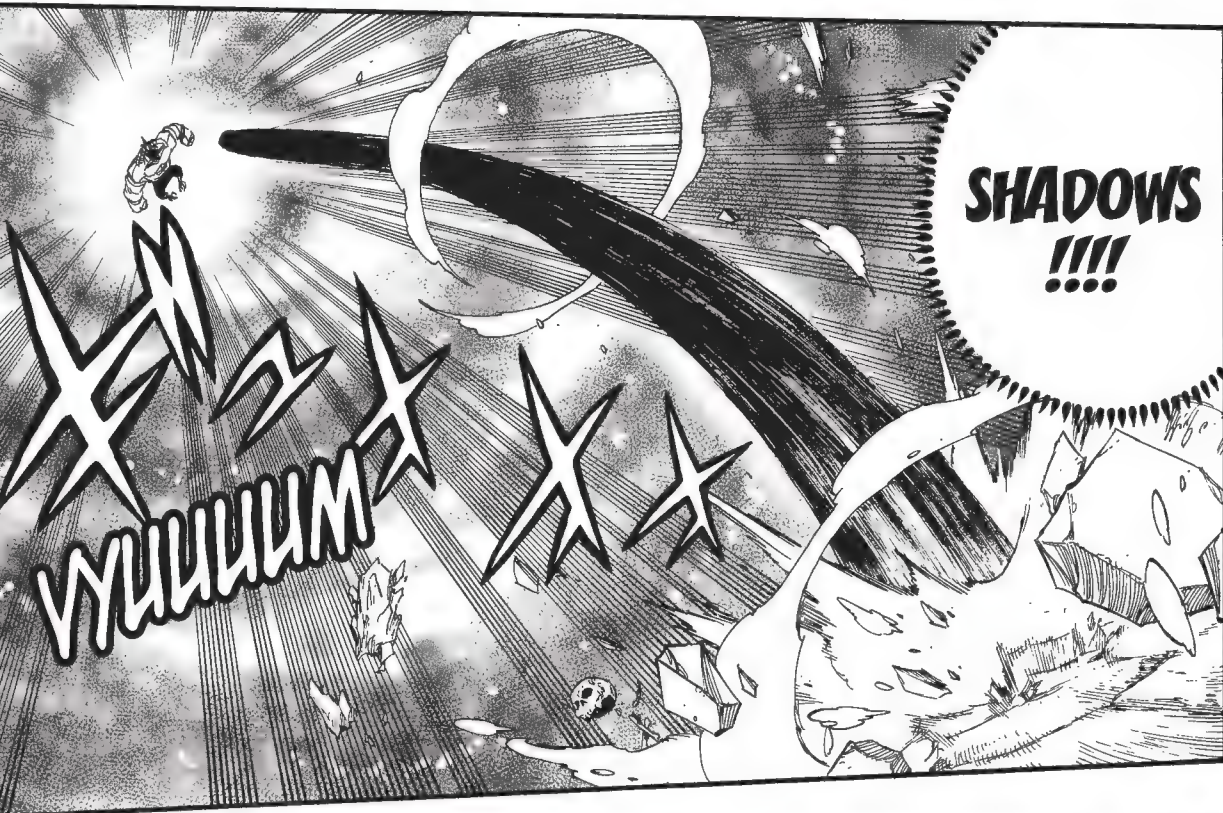
GAMM
OI

BLORP!





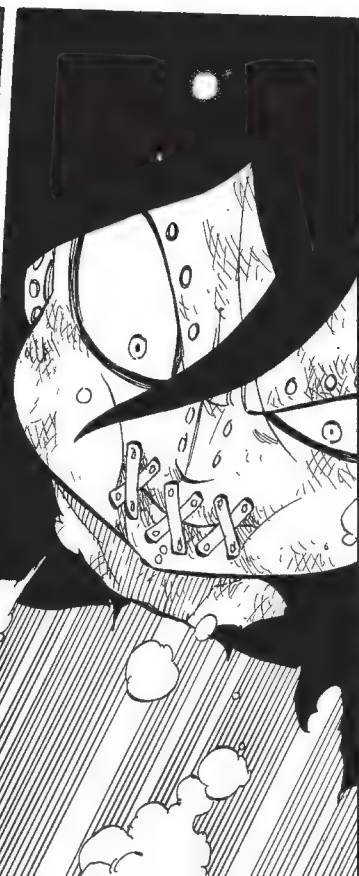


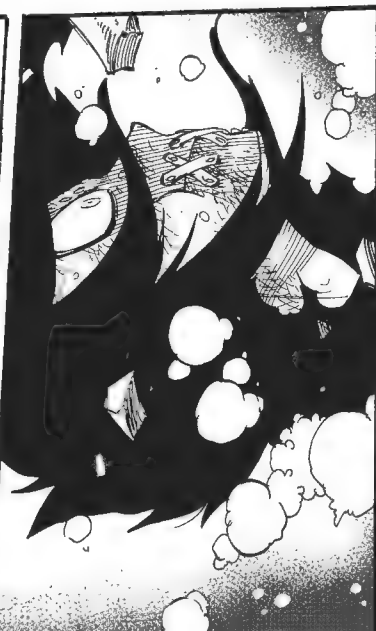


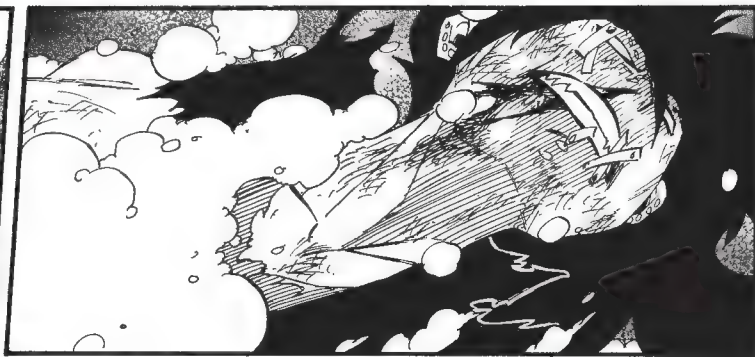


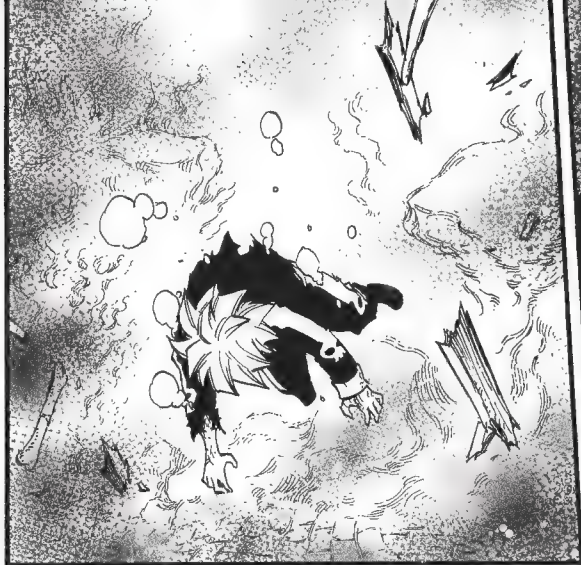
*Iron Dragon Sword











Dammit...
I can't see
nothing no
more...

If I
just had
some
air...

...I
could
take this
creep
down...

My
body...

...won't
move...

Everything's
gone black...

Does this
mean
I'm gonna
die...?

Can't...
hold
on...

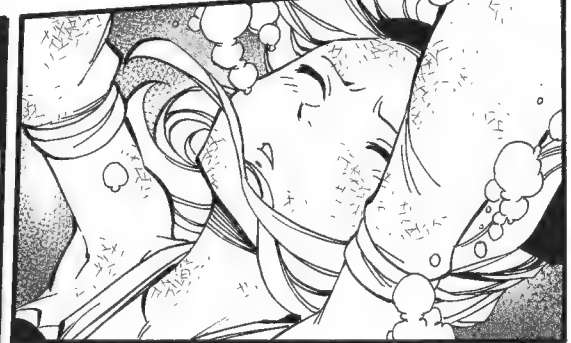
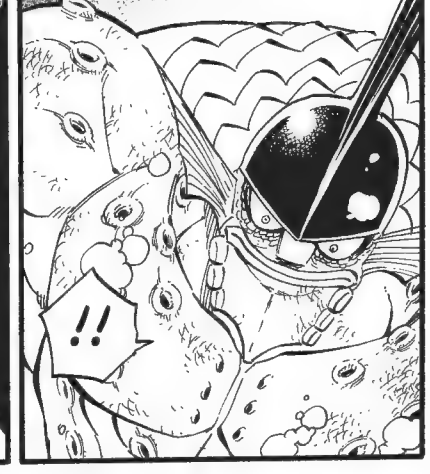
Who
needs
light?!
I need
air!!

A
light...?

...anymore...

Gimme
air!!!!







**OUTTA
MY
WAY
!!!!**

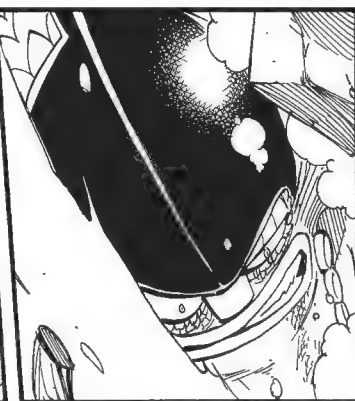
**GAAAH
!!**

FAIRY TAIL

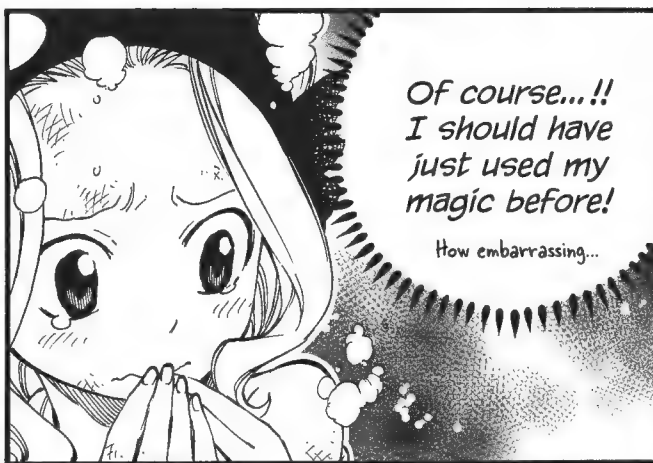
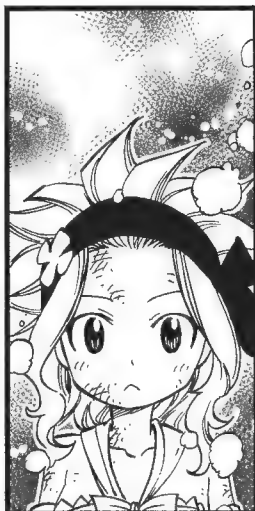
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 397: Steel



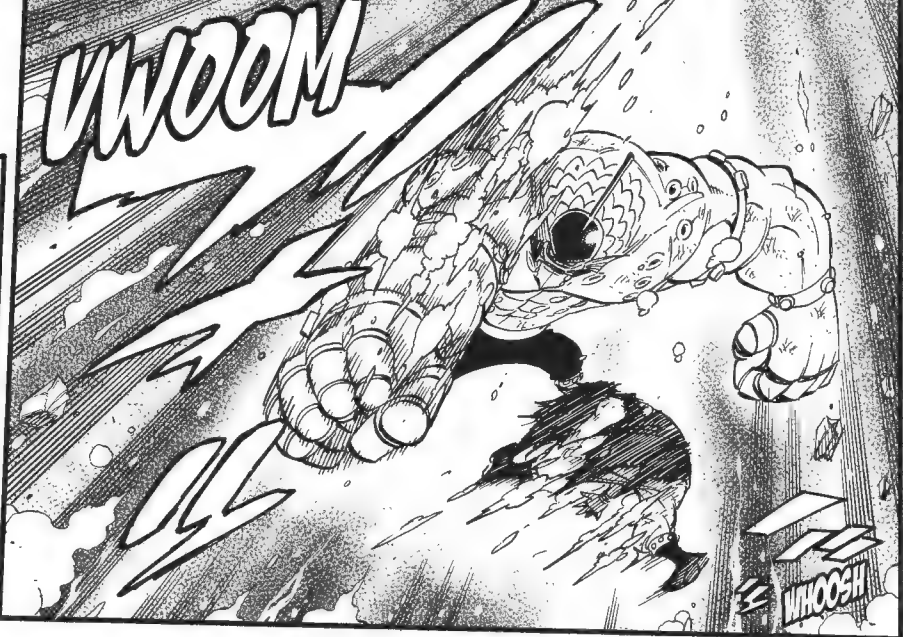


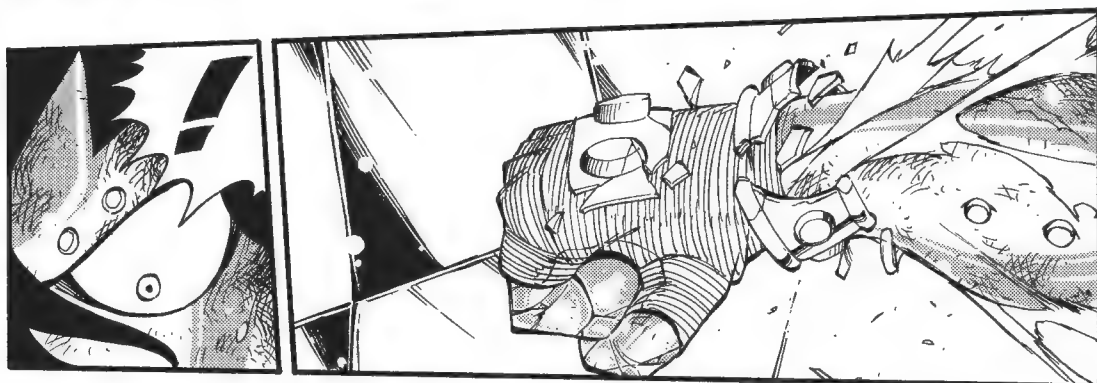




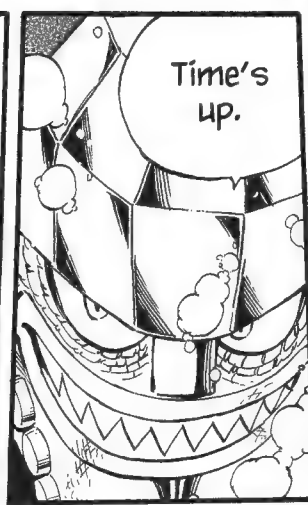
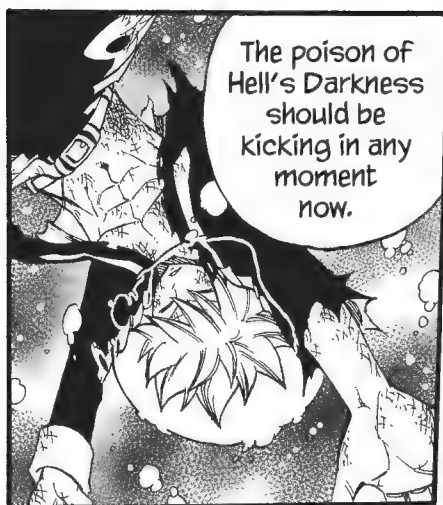


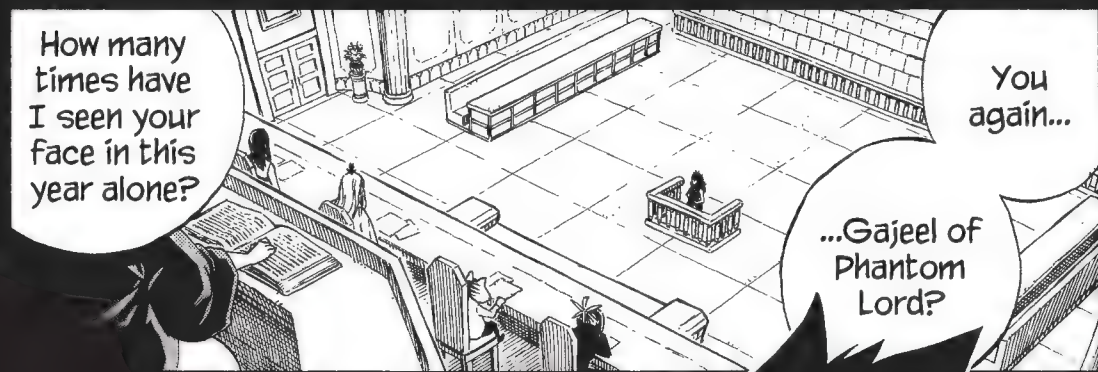
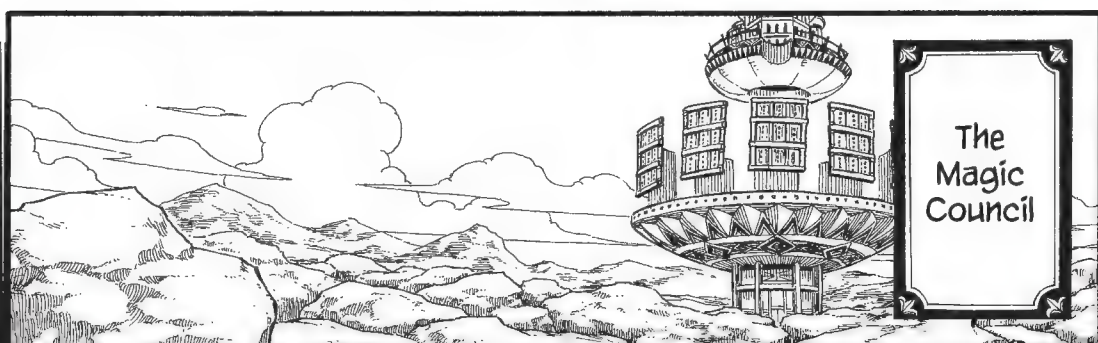
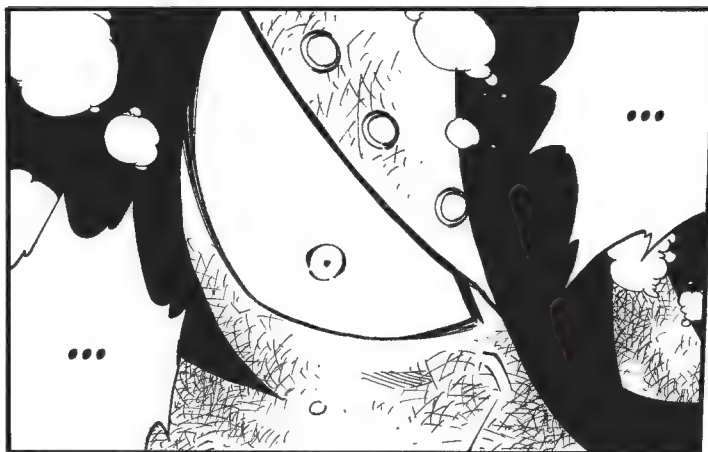








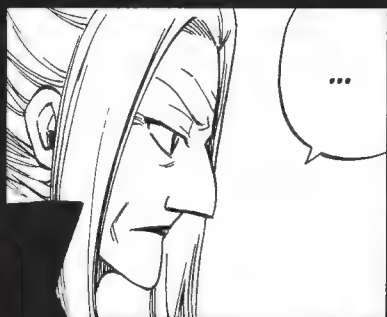




How many times have I seen your face in this year alone?

You again...

...Gajeel of Phantom Lord?



Gee hee!

You again?

Wait there, Gajeel.

You should leave Phantom.

My advice is the same as it ever was.



**COUNCIL MEMBER
ELDER BELNO**

You think you can order an iron dragon slayer around?!

Listen, you old bag!

I will repeat myself as many times as necessary.

Phantom's aggression is growing more extreme. They will soon reach a point where we will have no choice but to...

You can take your advice and shove it! You got no business tellin' me what to do!



You
got
some
nerve...



Each and
every one of
them was
lonely, deep
down inside.

I've seen
hundreds of
young men
like you.



I'm not
saying you
must become
an upstanding
citizen.

Rather...

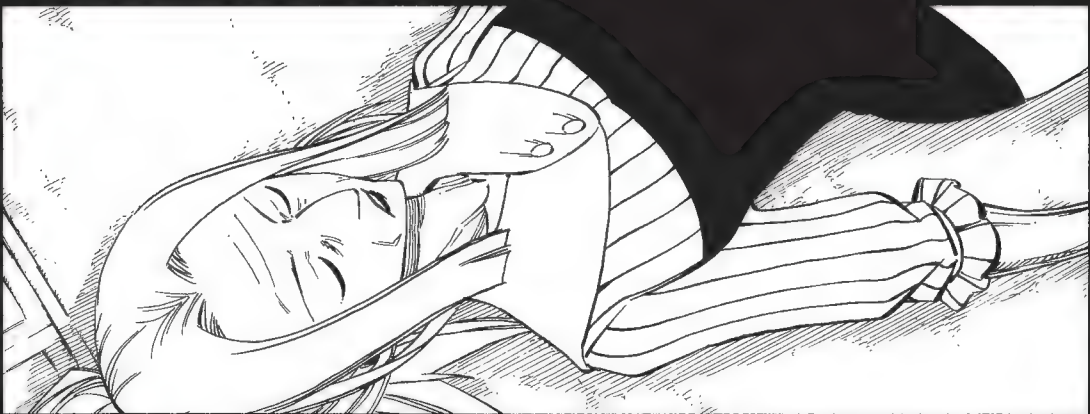
...I
suggest you
give your
life some
meaning.



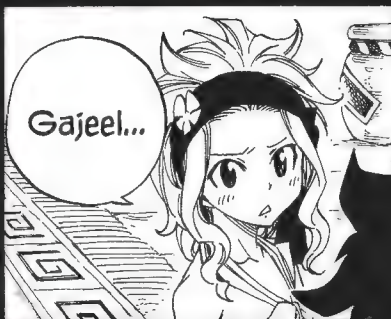
We're goin'
to war with
Fairy Fail!



If that's what
ya want...
I got plenty
of meaning
in my life
already!



Dammit!!
If we'd
gotten
here just
a little bit
sooner...



Gajeel...



But there
seems to be
no destruction
here.

We were
too late.

We've
deduced
that it was
an assas-
sination.



*Granny... In
the end, you
and I never
got to have a
decent talk.*

*But you were
watchin' out
for me... from
the time I
was a runt...*



*You
wanted me
to give
my life
meaning...*



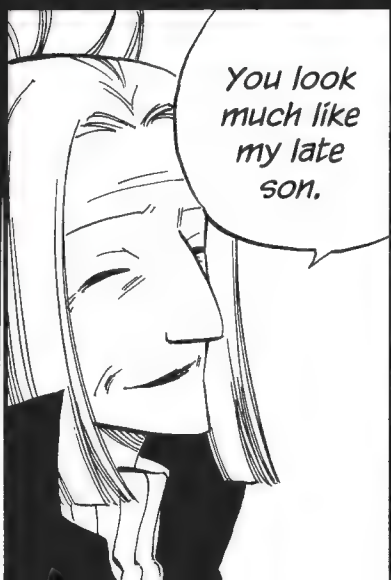


**And I
couldn't do
anything
to pay you
back!**



*I'll
remember
your words
instead.*

*I'll get
revenge for
you!!! No...
That ain't
right...*



*You look
much like
my late
son.*

*Like that
one time
when you
said...*

*And I'm
gonna try
my best to
live up to
them.*





Don't go
comparing me
to some dead
guy!! That's
creepy!!!



I ain't the
scrap iron
that I used
to be!!

I got
somethin' to
show you, ya
old hag, so
you better be
looking down
here right
now!!



No... I *will*
keep them
safe!!!



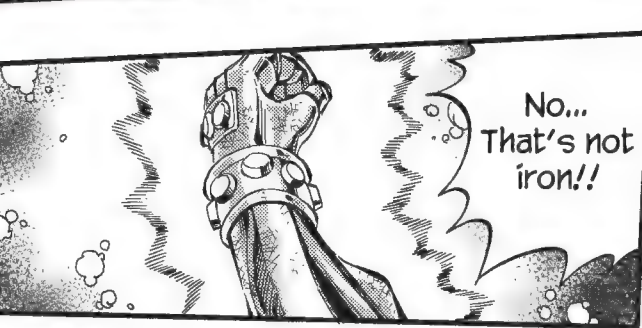
But...
I wanna keep
those guys
behind me
safe!!!



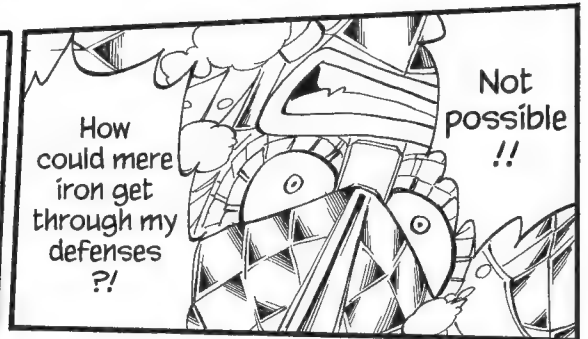
I got no idea if
this is the sort
of "meaning"
you were talkin'
about!!



**That's the
meaning
of my
life!!!!**



No...
That's not
iron!!



How
could mere
iron get
through my
defenses
?!

Not
possible
!!



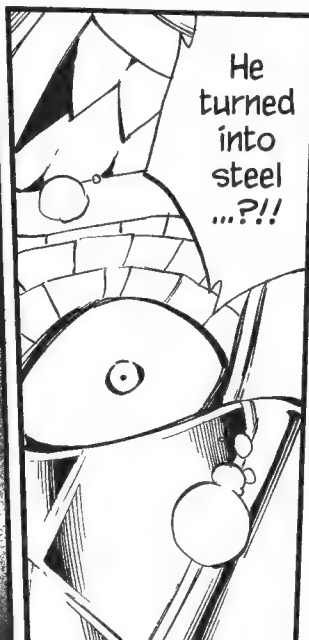
Aa

aa

aa

aa

ah!!



He
turned
into
steel
...?!!



Iron plus
carbon equals...

... Steel.



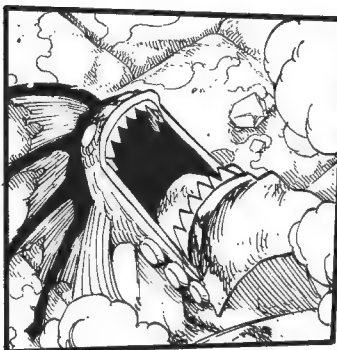
Has his
skin been
absorbing
carbon from
the black
water...?

KÔRYŪ KEN*!!!!

KAMM KAMM KAMM KAMM

A A A A X A A

*Steel Dragon's Sword

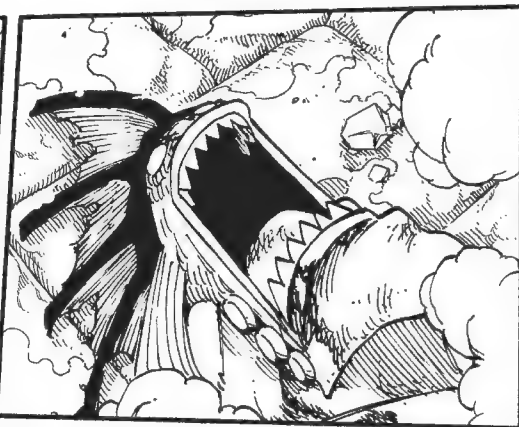
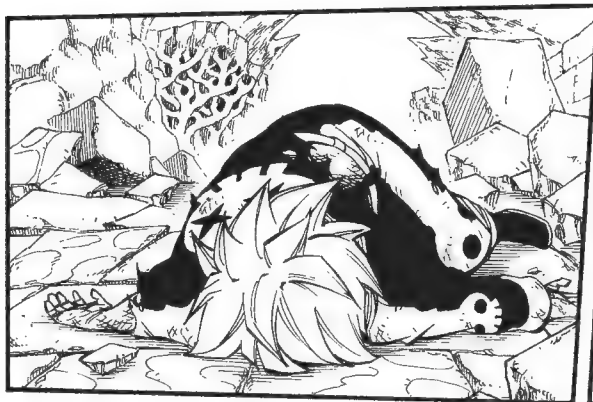
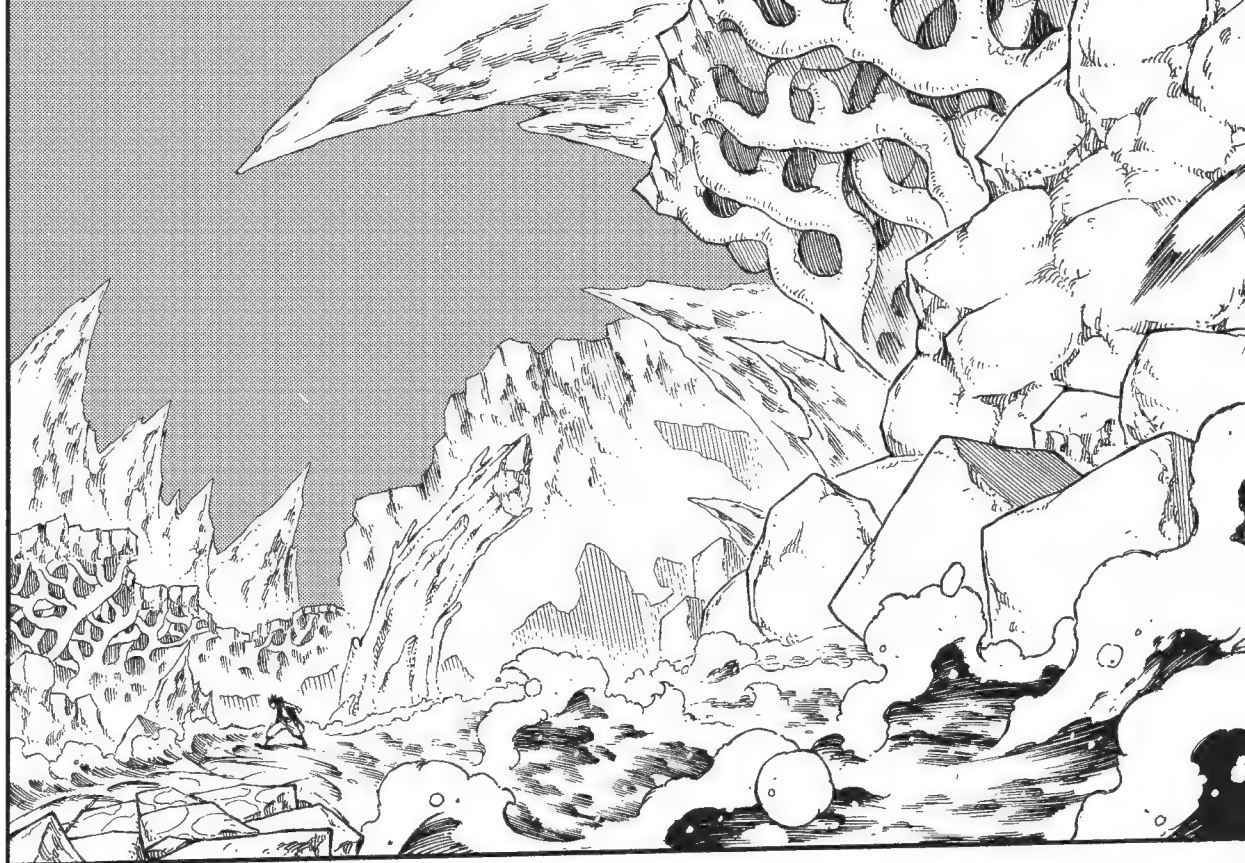


FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 398: The Final Duels







...there's still one left to fight!

This ain't good...



Kh...

WHUD
FW
FW



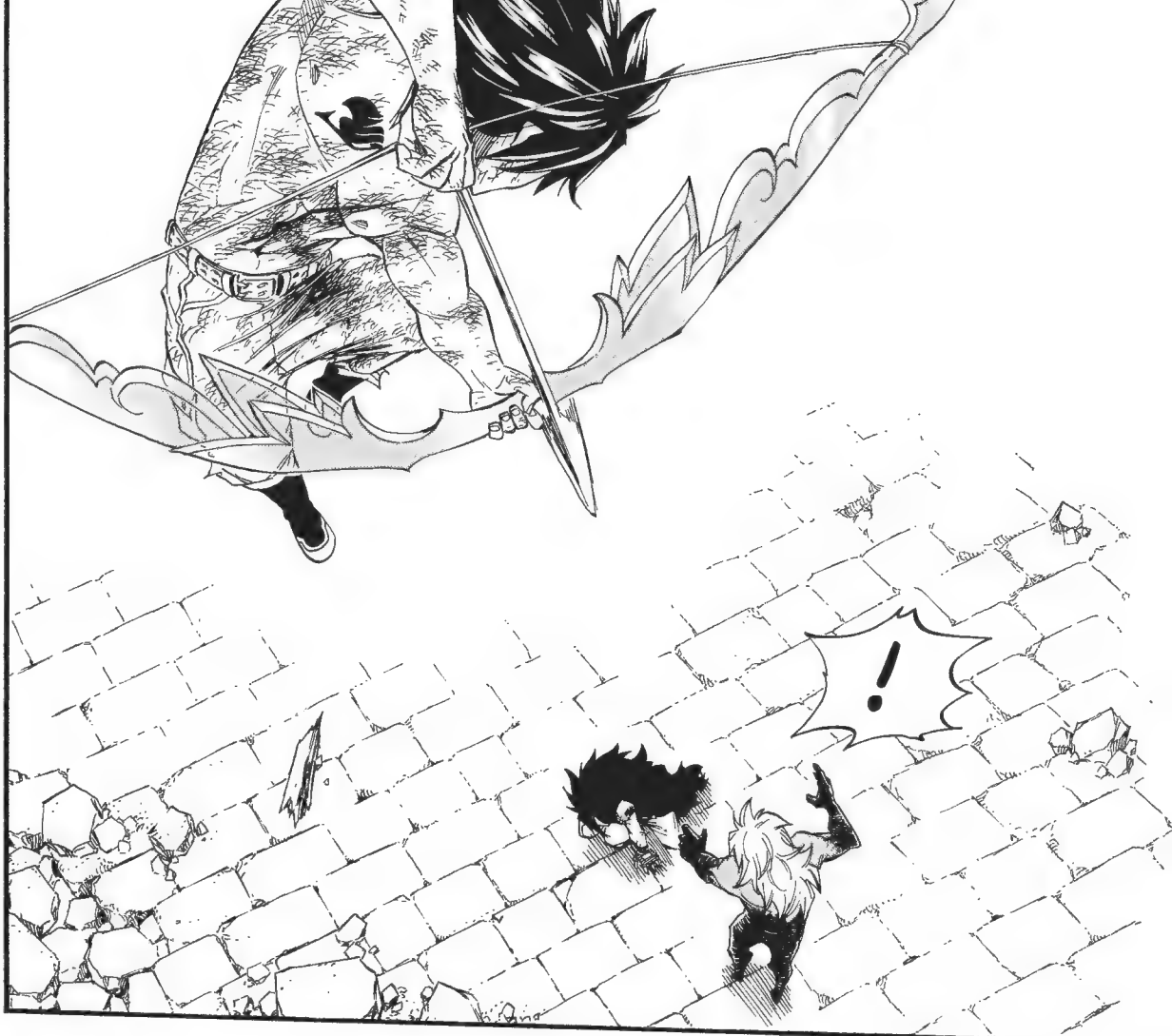
SLUMP

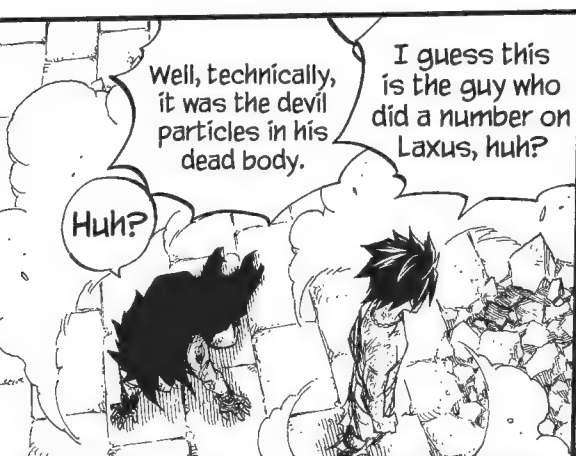


Dammit



...



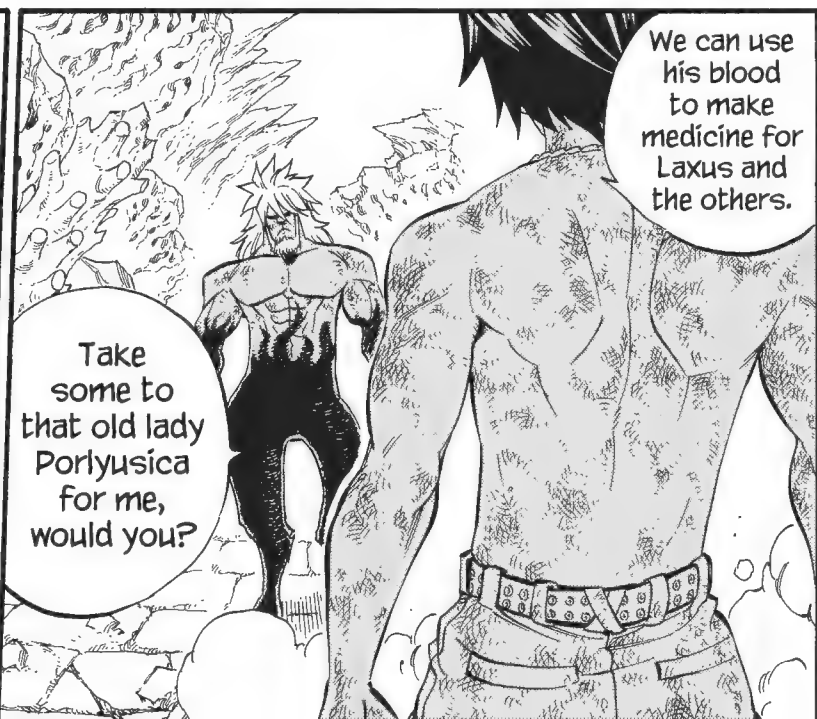


Well, technically, it was the devil particles in his dead body.

I guess this is the guy who did a number on Laxus, huh?

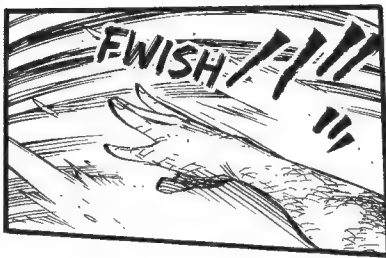


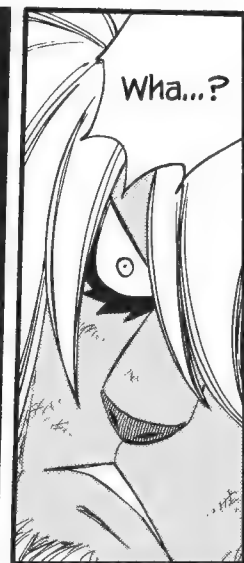
Ask me again after you *actually* do him in!



We can use his blood to make medicine for Laxus and the others.

Take some to that old lady Porlyusica for me, would you?



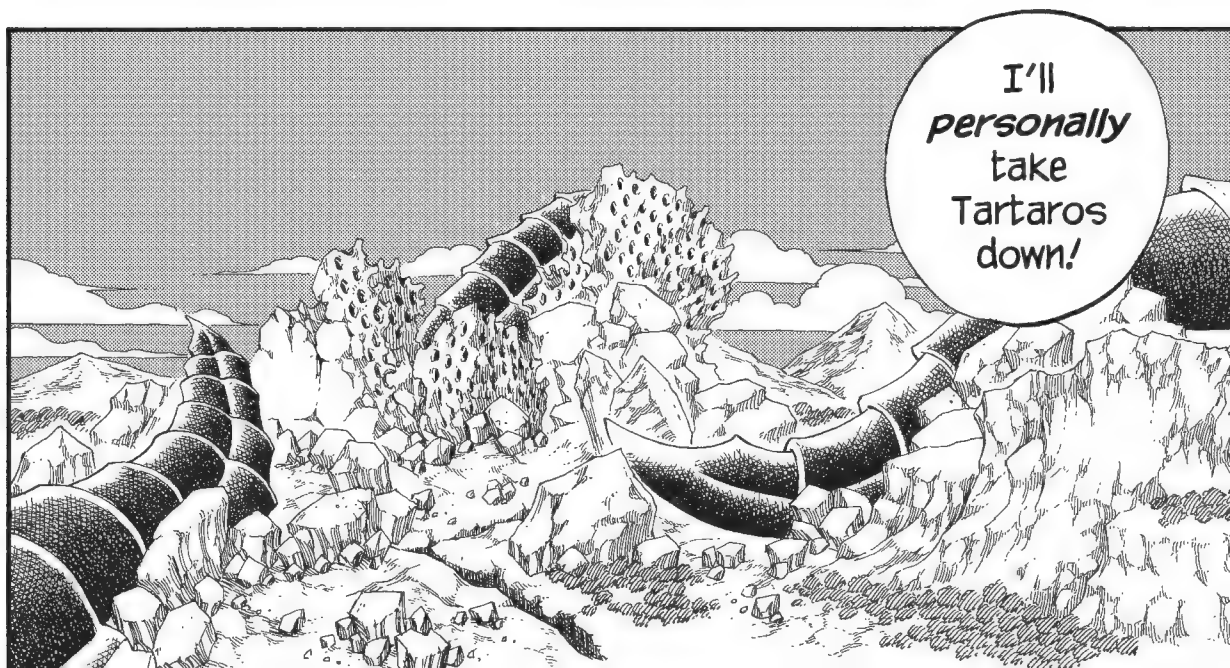


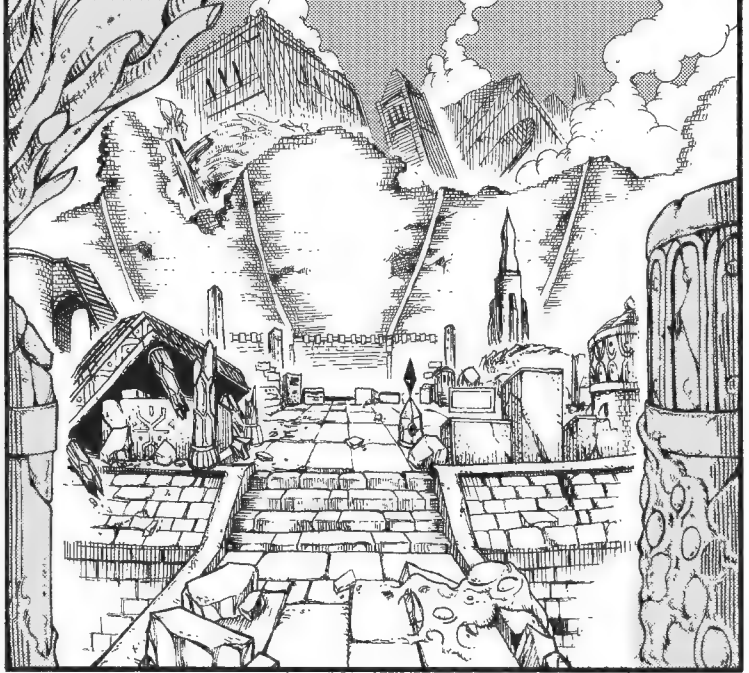


SHINNG

LONG
SWORD
OFFICE
DEMON
ZERO
!!!!

CHKK





Hmm... I don't think Keyes-sama is animating him...

So it must be...



We have to stop him!!

GURK!

WAAH!!

DMP

Mr. Chairman !!!

GRNN

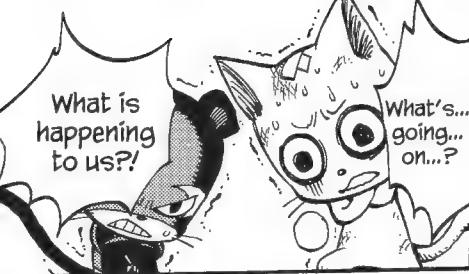
...is moving on its own...!!

GRNN

Wh-What's this?

My body...

LOA STPP!!



What is happening to us?!

What's... going... on...?



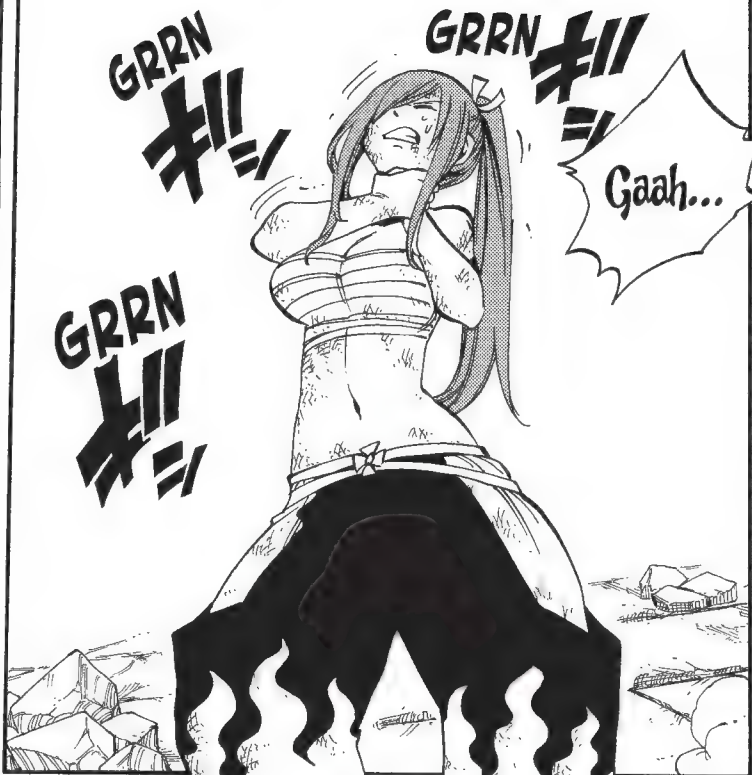
C-Can't breathe...

GRRN #!!

Enemy magic ?!!



Damn ...



GRRN #!!

GRRN #!!

Gaah...

GRRN #!!



!

Do not kill them yet!

She belongs to this one!

It is Macro, my curse power.



No... You're controlling the chairman...?



Seilah...

Kyôka...

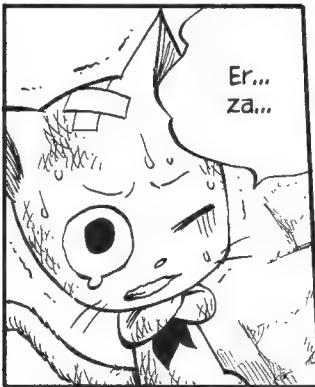


Indeed, I am.
Though I lack
Keyes-sama's
finesse,

my Macro
grants me
some measure
of control over
the deceased.

And with the
authority of the
chairman, we are
able to activate...

...all 3,000 Face
units directly
from this location.



Er...
za...



Ngggh!

AGGH!



Kh...



You chose to disgrace yourself rather than die with honor, Minerva? How predictable.

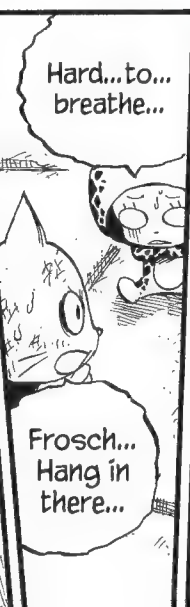


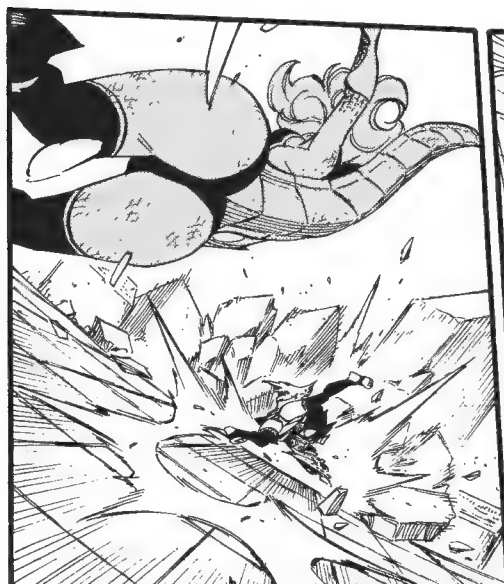
Your tales have come to a close.



Erza... How does it feel to be bound in place once again?

Does it bring back memories of our time together in the interrogation chamber?





What
?!



Mira!!



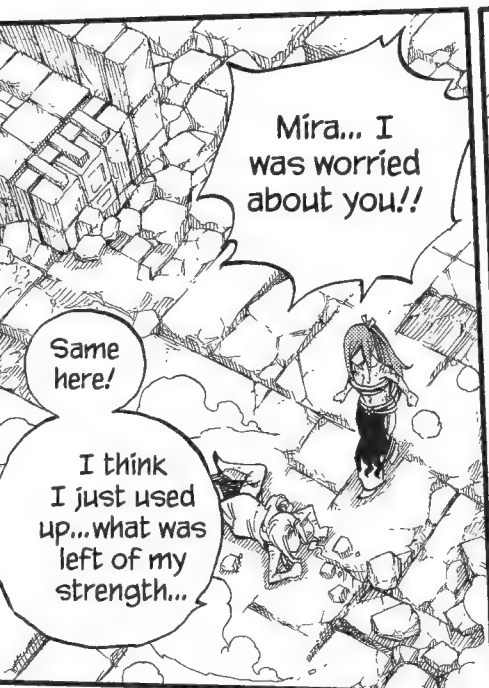
And the chair-
man's
down!!



Right!! The
feeling's
back in my
limbs!!



We can
move
again!!



Mira... I
was worried
about you!!

Same
here!

I think
I just used
up... what was
left of my
strength...



You
imperti-
nent...



Be at
ease.



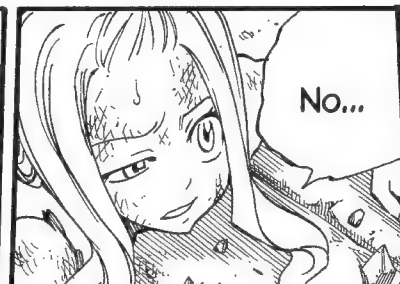
The Face
Operation...



Forgive
me... It was
my last...



Seilah... You
performed
admirably with
but a fraction of
your curse power
remaining.



She's sucking up Seilah-sama's curse power! Oh, how much power will she gain? How much?

That's my trick!

SHIIING

Of course.

Your soul will share in that joy.

Please win this, Kyôka-sama!!!

Erza, please!!!

Take Kyôka down!!! She has most of the information!!

Stop them!! What else?!

What can we do?!

You mean the bombs will go off?!!

Yes!



I will
stop
Face!!



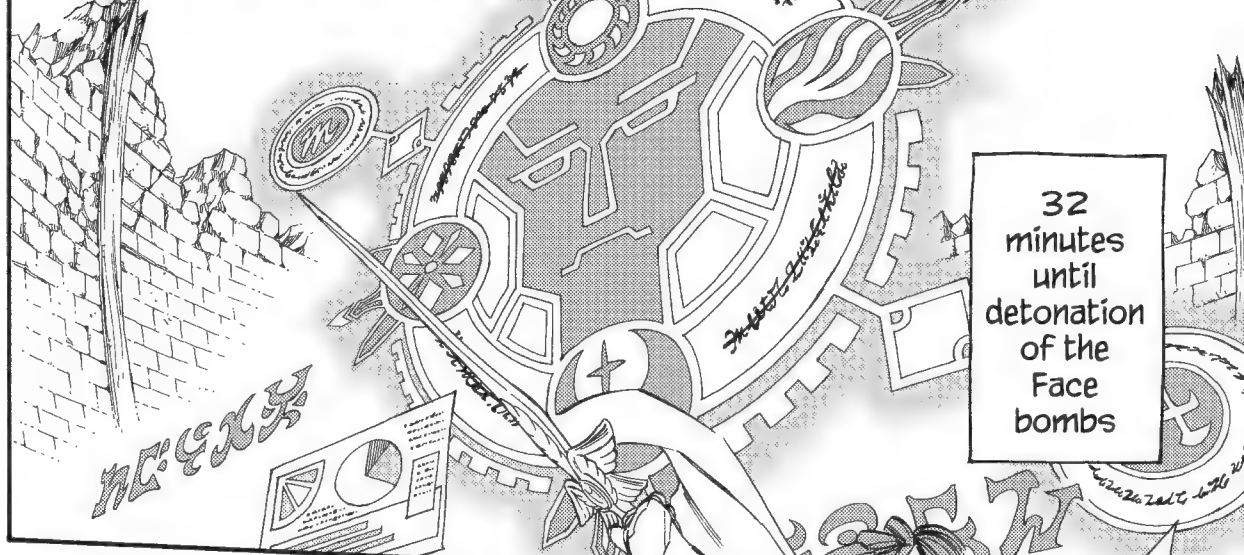
This one will
exterminate
the enemy in
the name of
Zeref!!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 399: Wings of Despair





32
minutes
until
detonation
of the
Face
bombs



You are
already
too late.

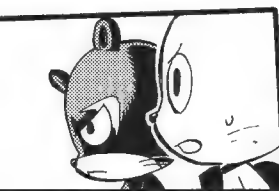
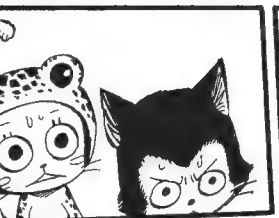
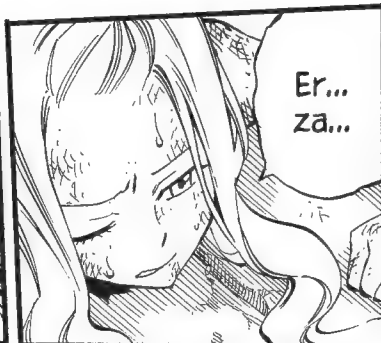
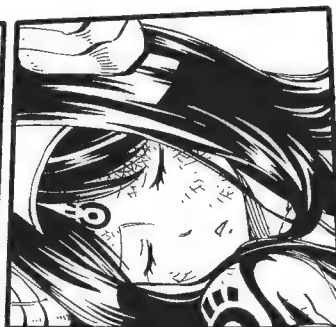


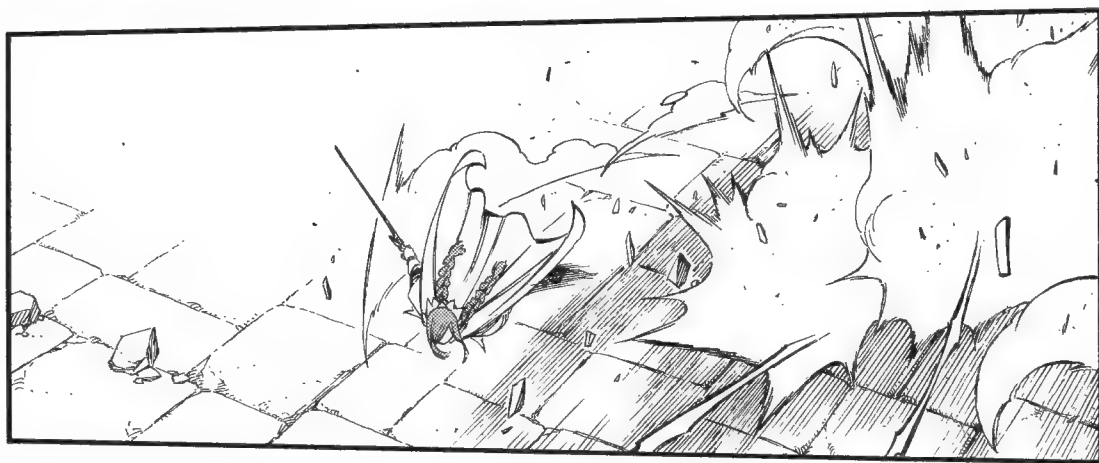
I will
stop
you!!

DMP

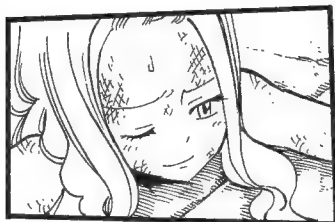


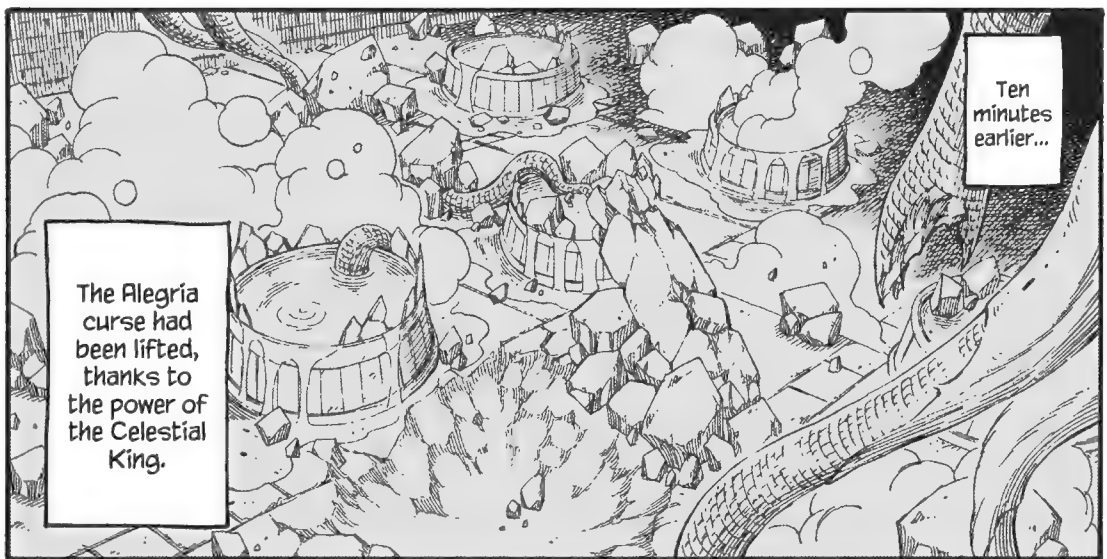
Not
yet!!

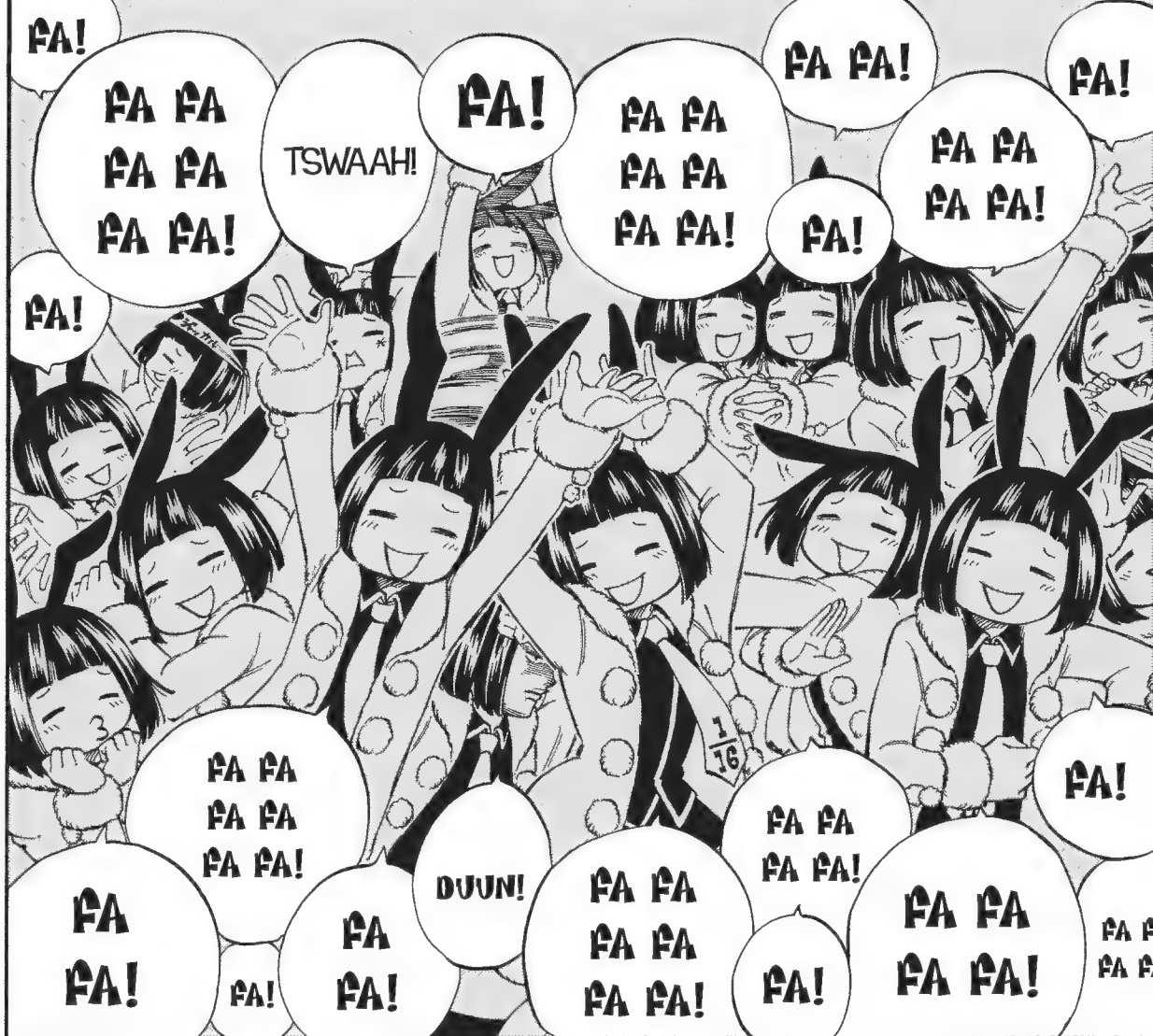




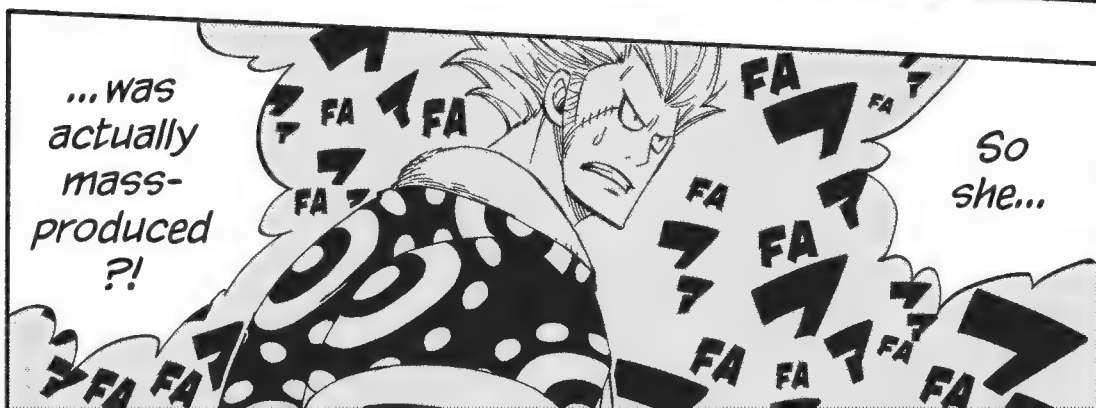
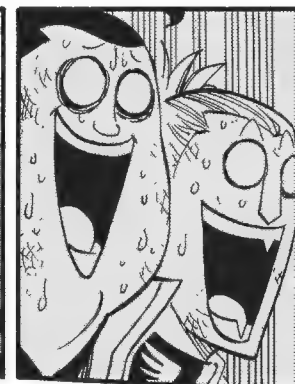
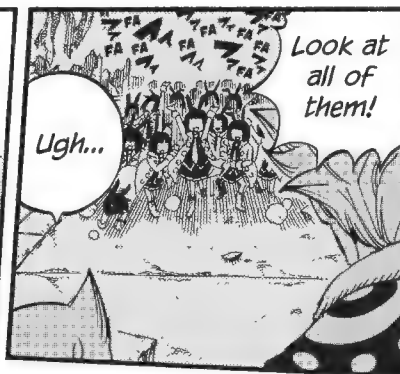




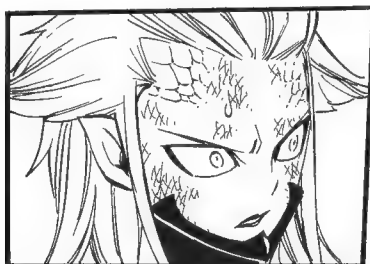
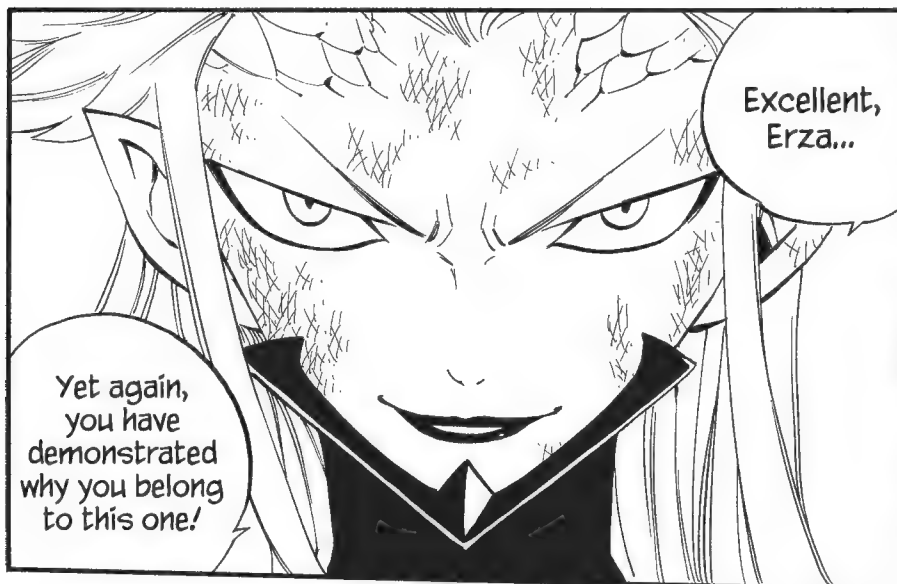
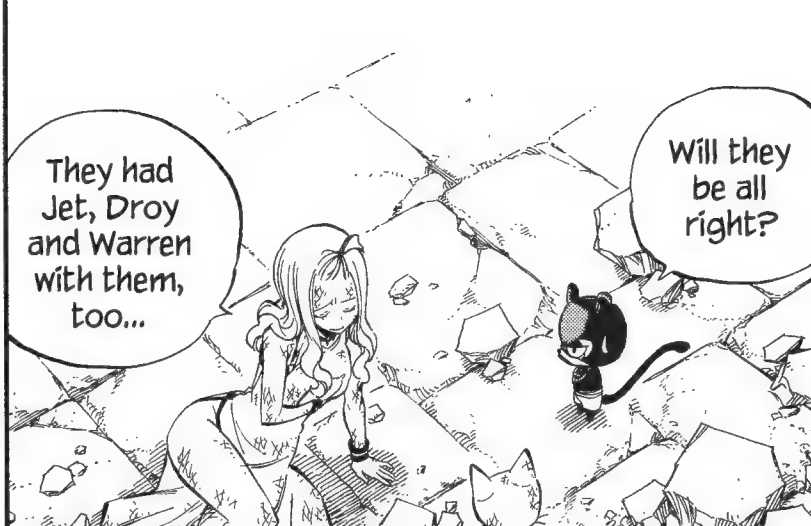
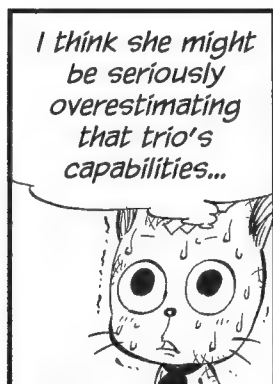


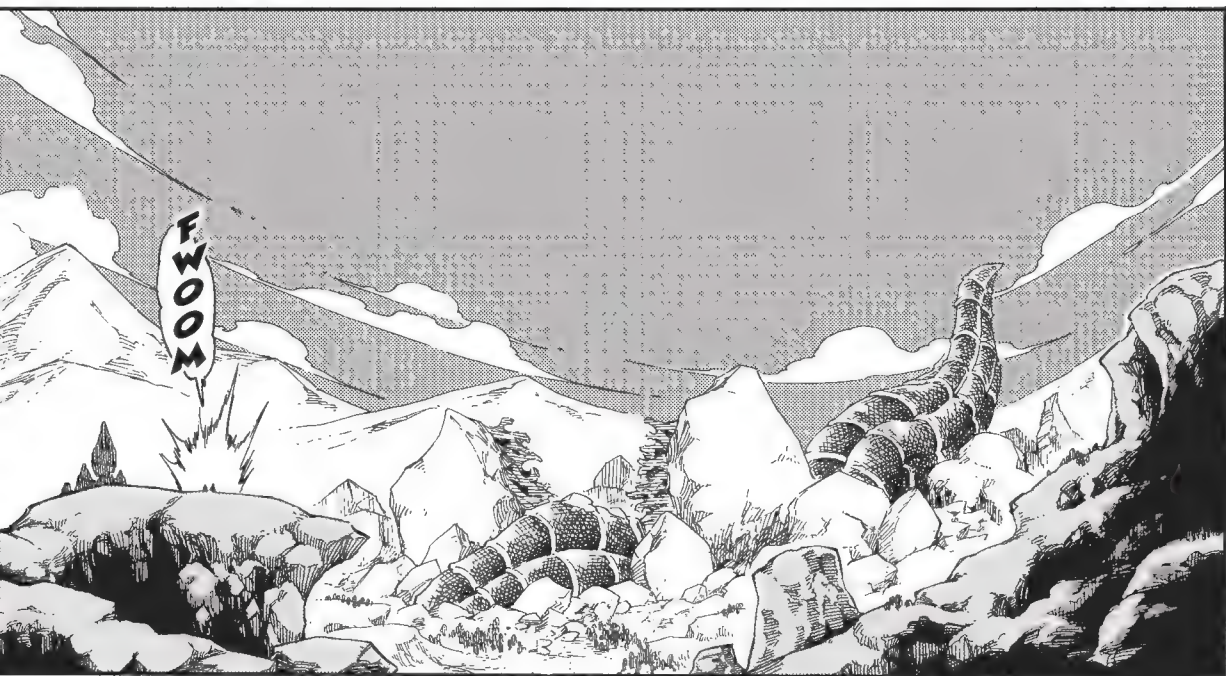


* Headband: "Jackal"











Wendy...

Wendy, snap out of it! What's wrong?!



I'm just glad everybody's okay...

He left about as fast as he came, though.



Gray-sama was here?



What's wrong, Natsu?



That'll help Laxus and the others, right?

Okay!

Levy, take this to that old hag Porlyusica.



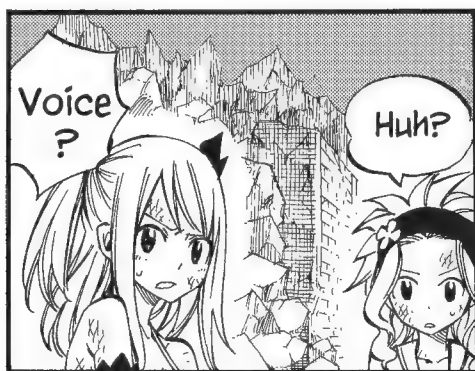
Huh?



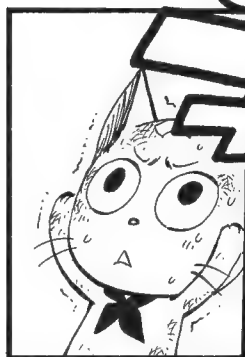
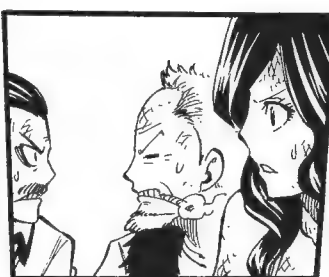
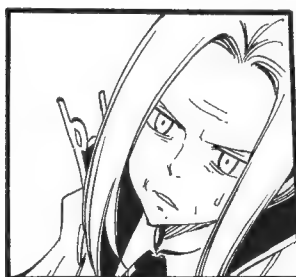
Gajeel... can't you hear it?



Aw, he's probably just POEd that Ice-For-Brains got a quick power-up.











**IT'S
ACNO-
LOGIA
!!!!**



Perhaps
this means...
the time has
come.

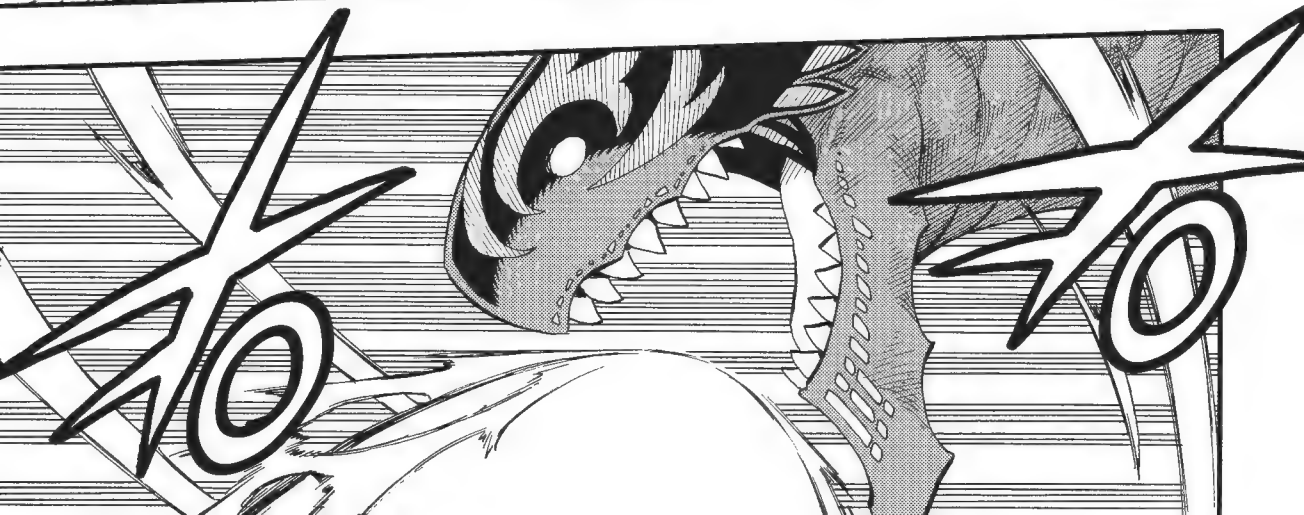
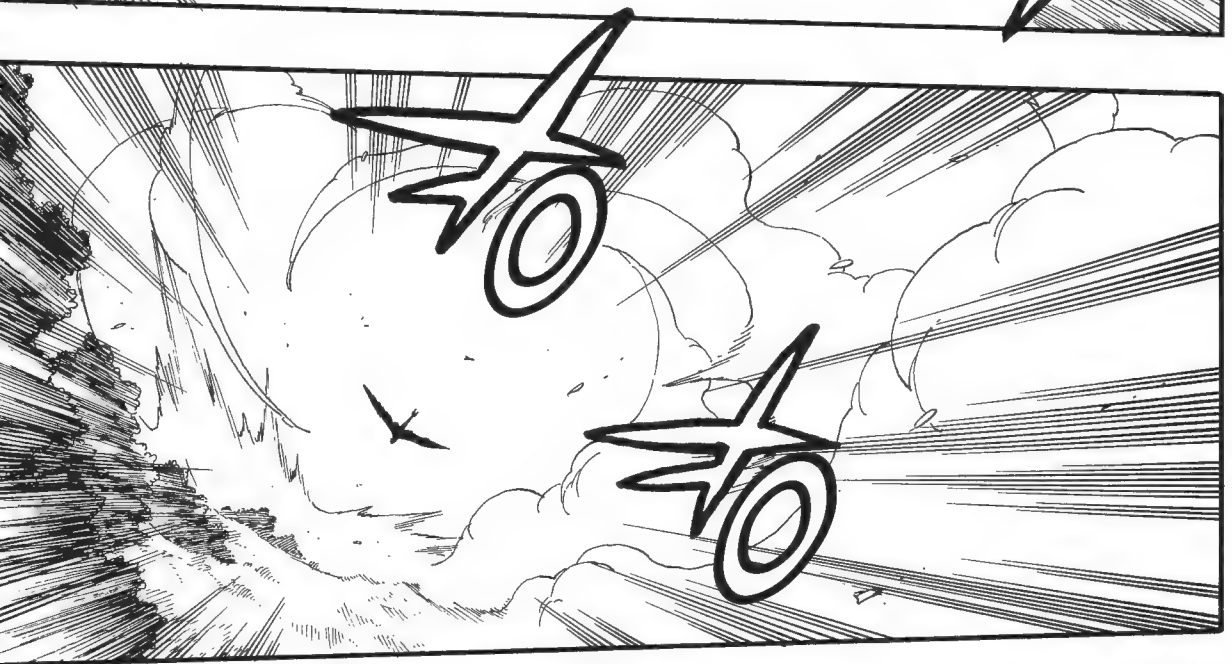
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

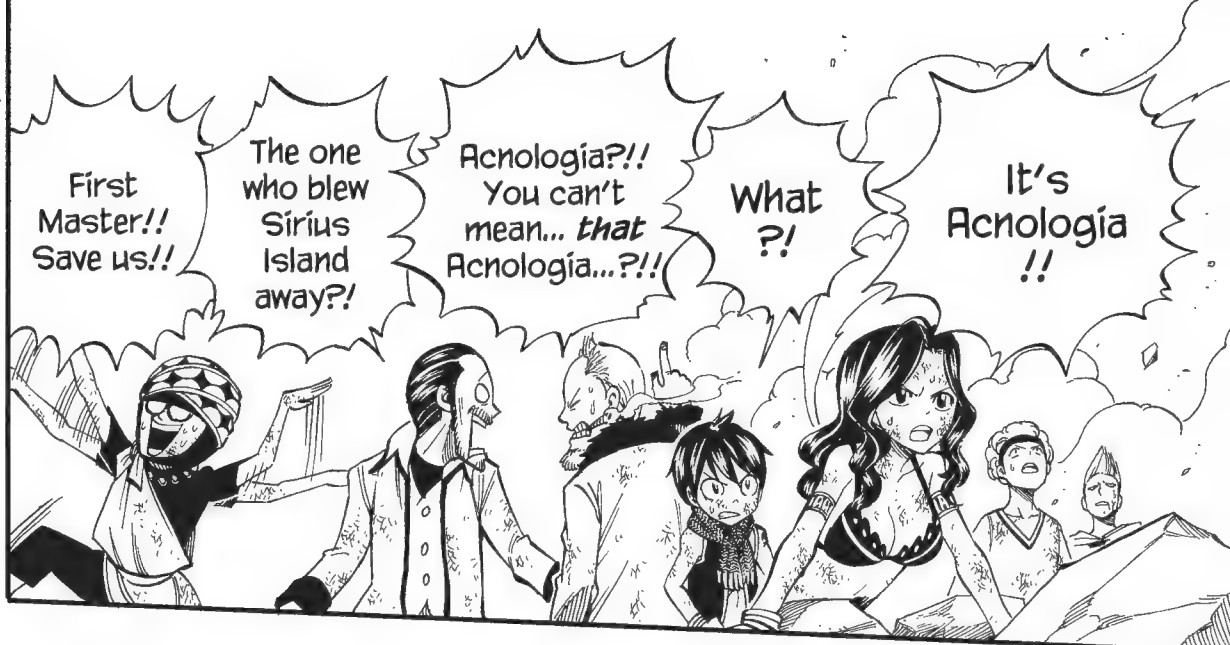
Chapter 400:
Wings of Hope











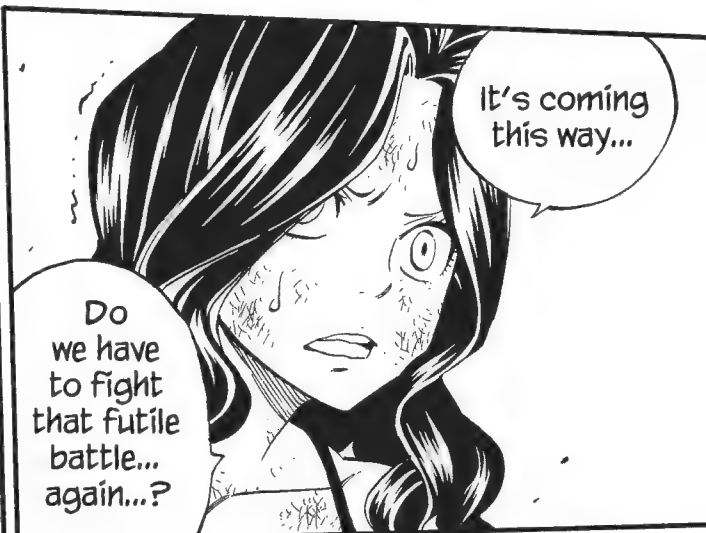
First
Master!!
Save us!!

The one
who blew
Sirius
Island
away?!

Acnologia?!
You can't
mean... *that*
Acnologia...?!!

What
?!

It's
Acnologia
!!

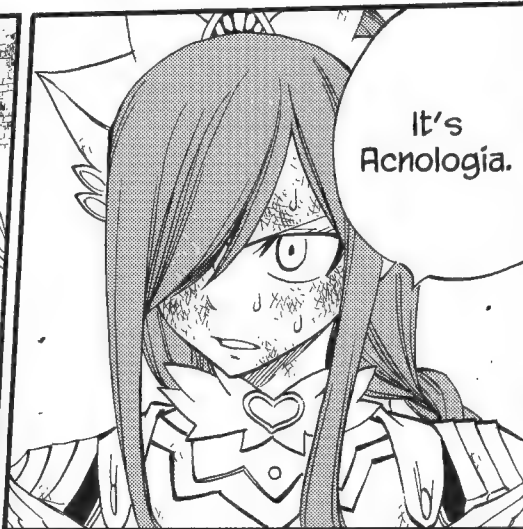


It's coming
this way...

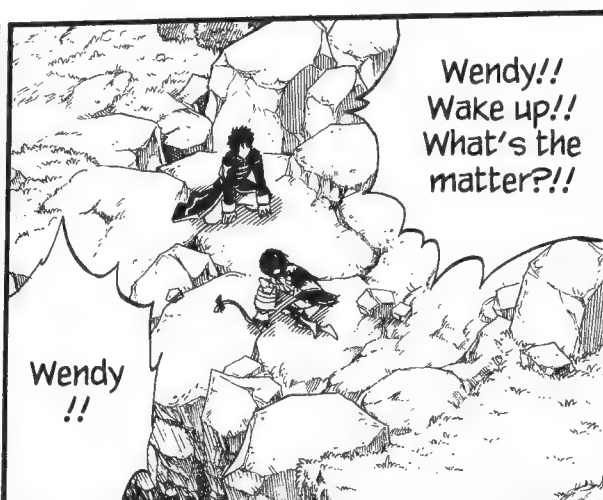
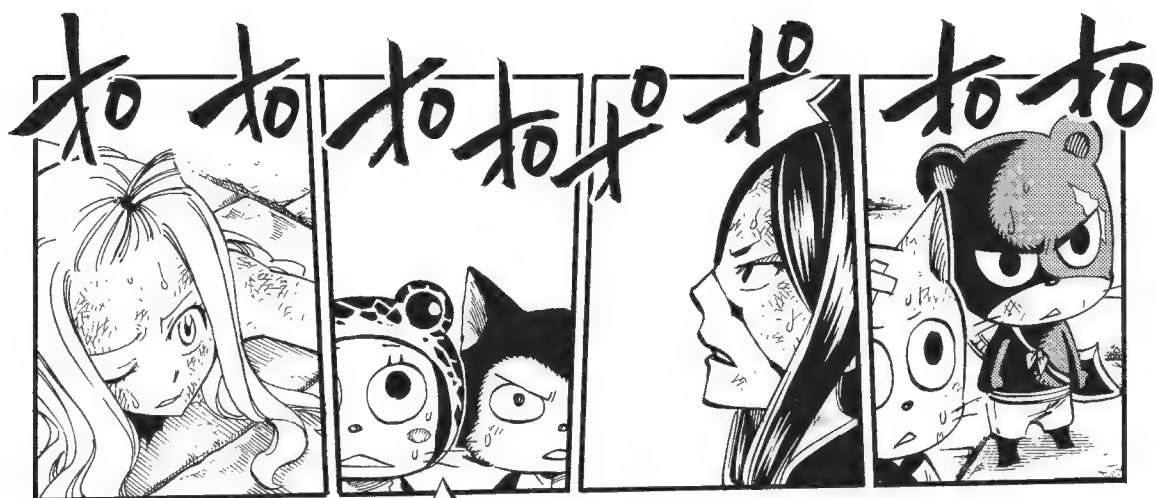
Do
we have
to fight
that futile
battle...
again...?

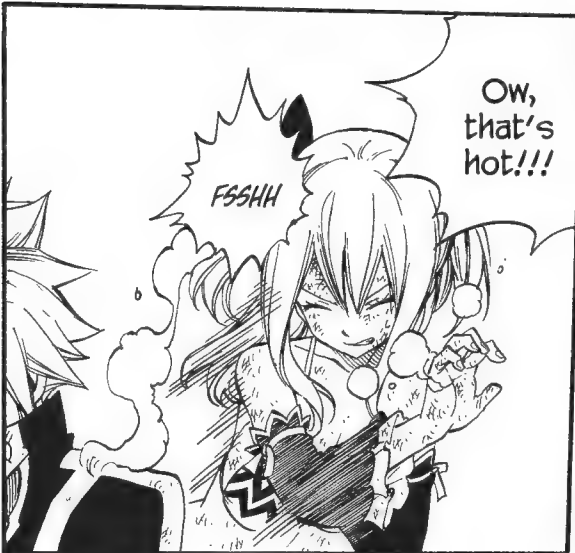


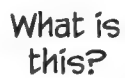
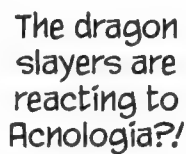
What
did you
say?!!

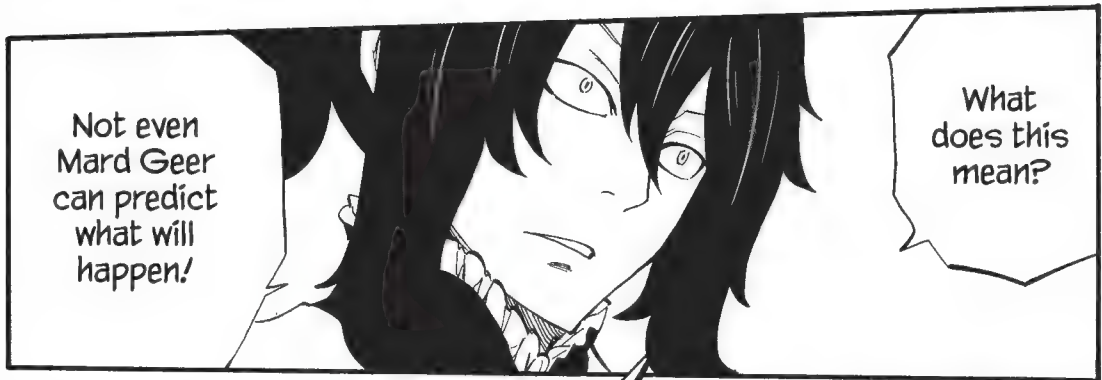


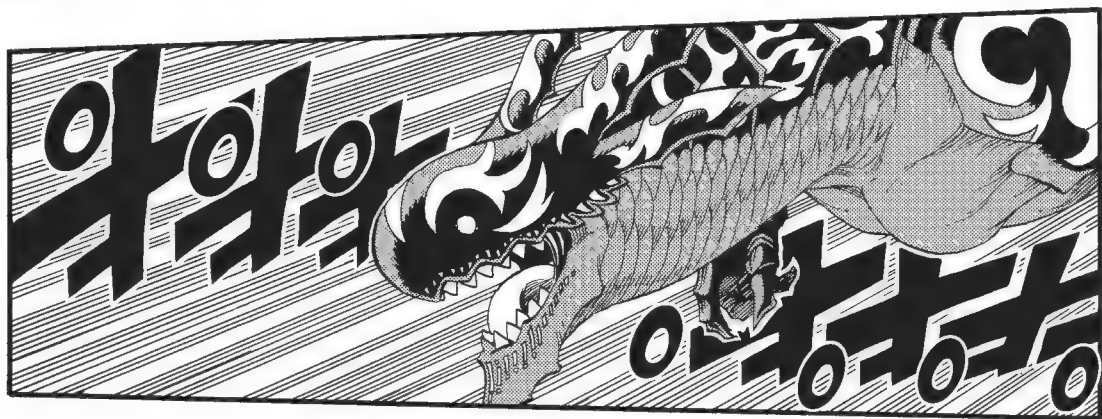
It's
Acnologia.













Is this... the end?

We're dead!!



It's just flying in a circle, and we're getting blasted... ?!!

No way!!



UWAAH!!

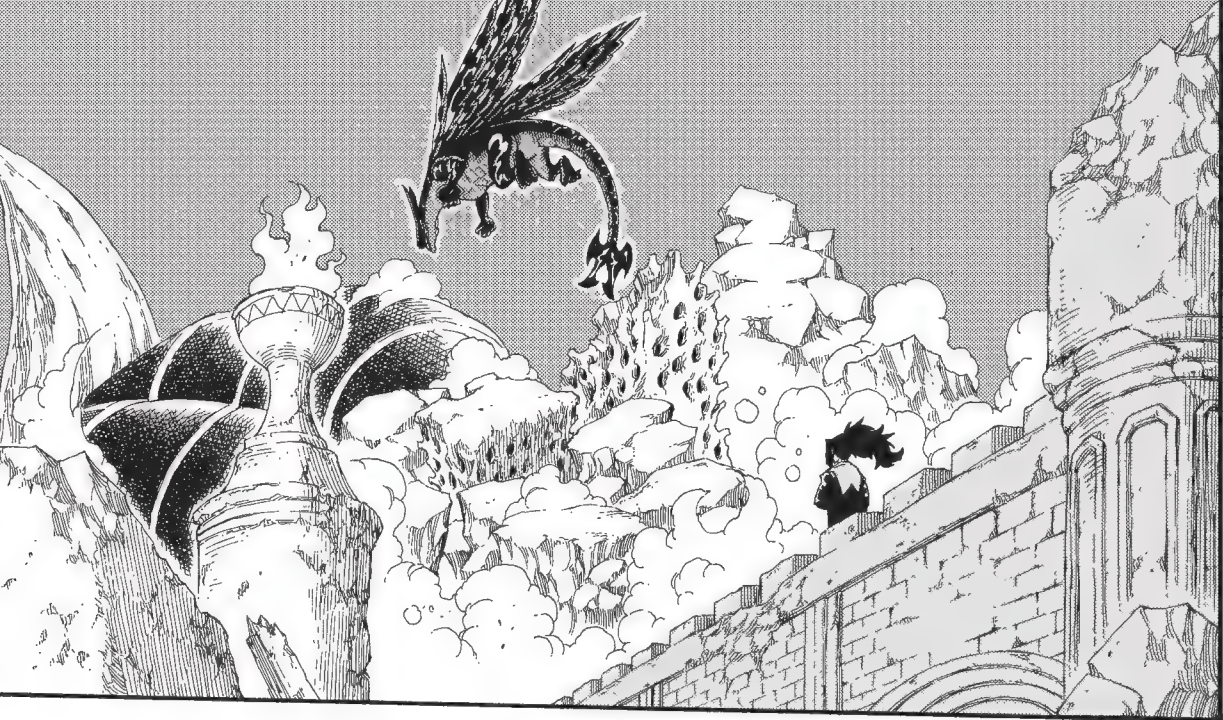
AAAA !!



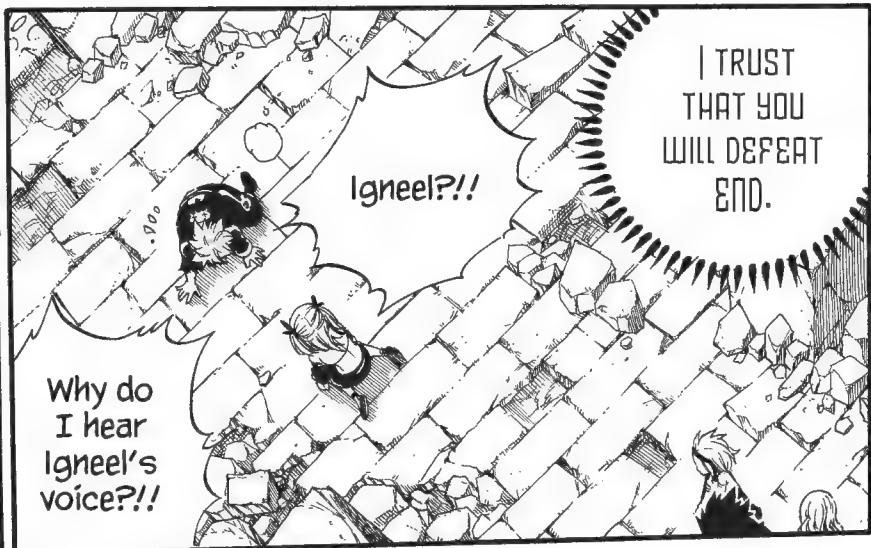
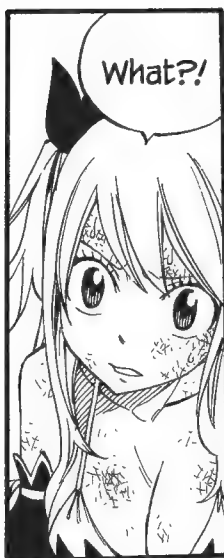
Dammit !!

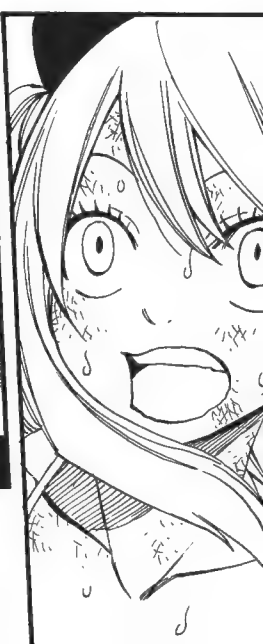
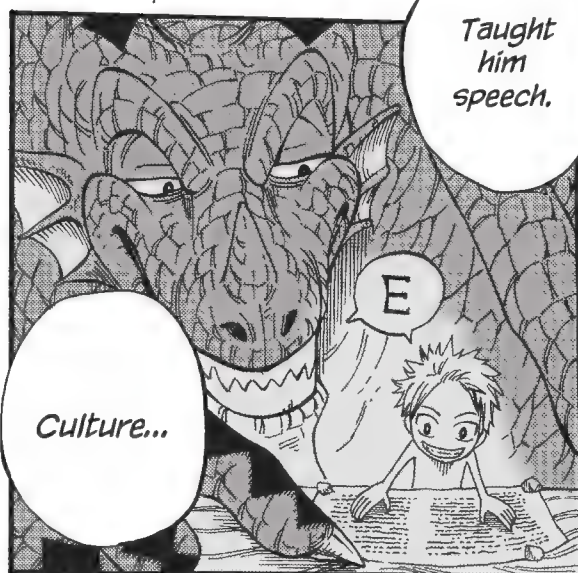
What could we possibly have done to deserve this...?!

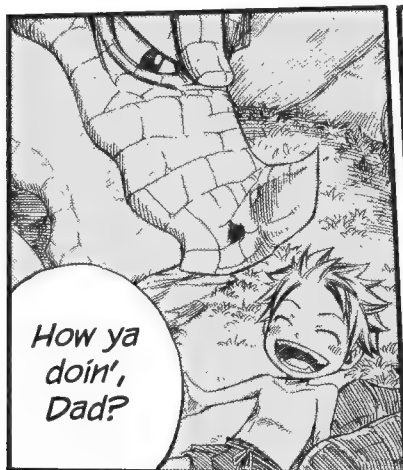
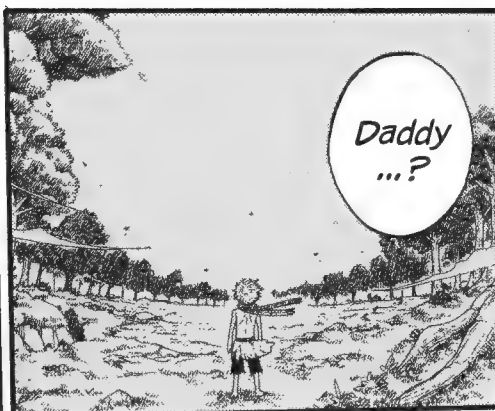







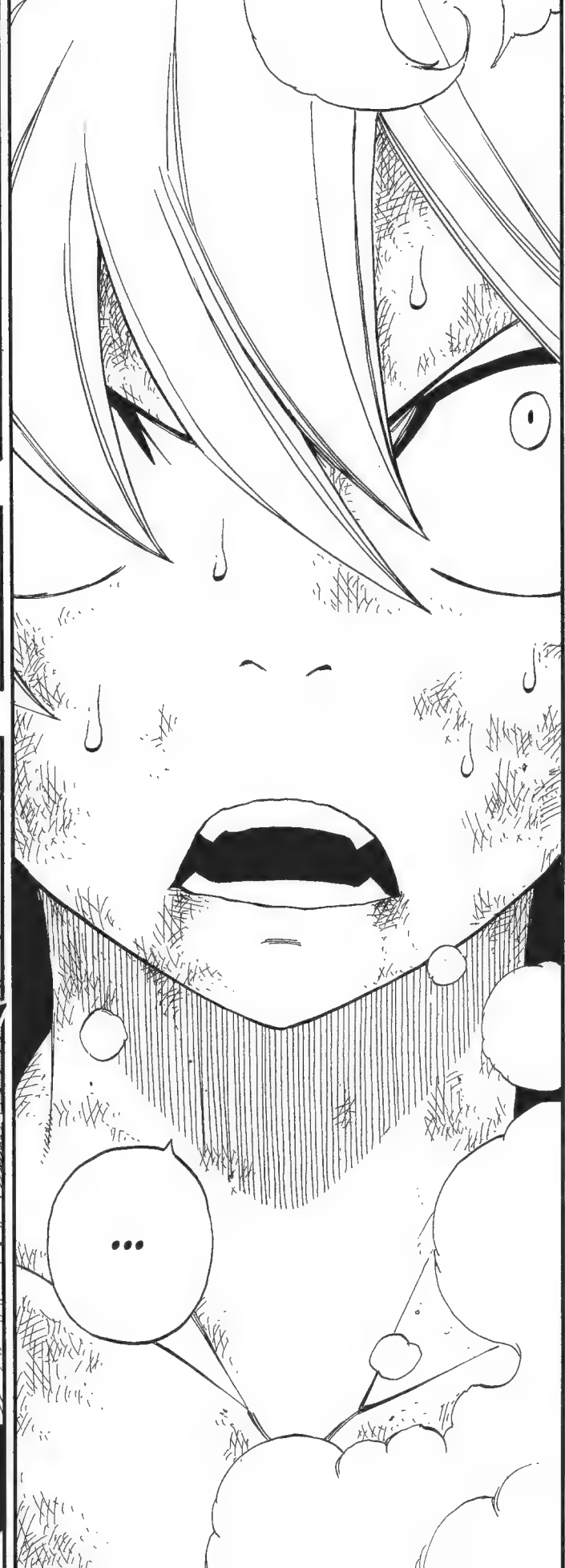
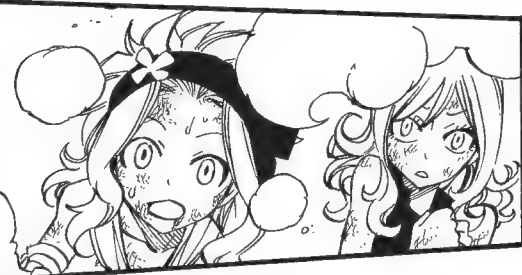


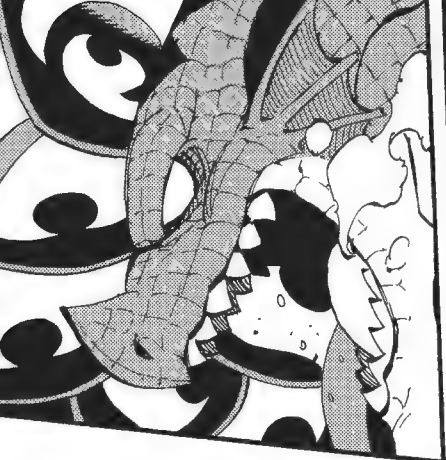






I've been
within you
this entire
time.





...a dream?

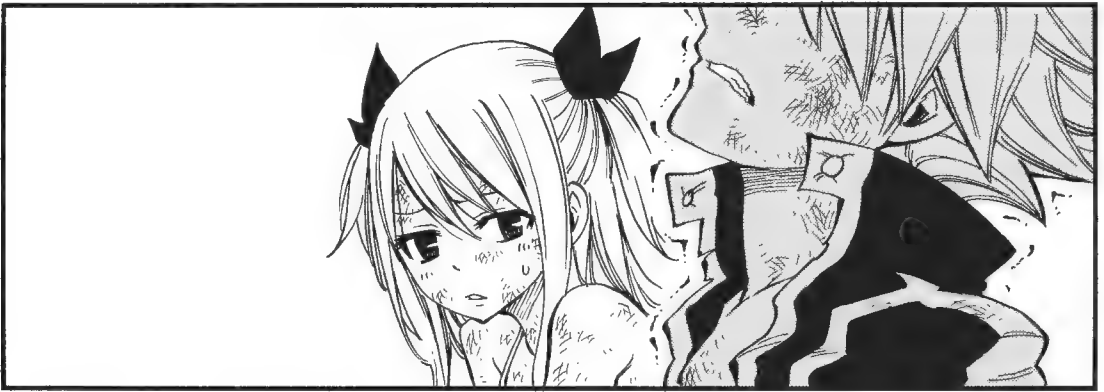
Is this...



**Just
stay
alive
!!!**

**Natsu
!!!!**

DOOOOON

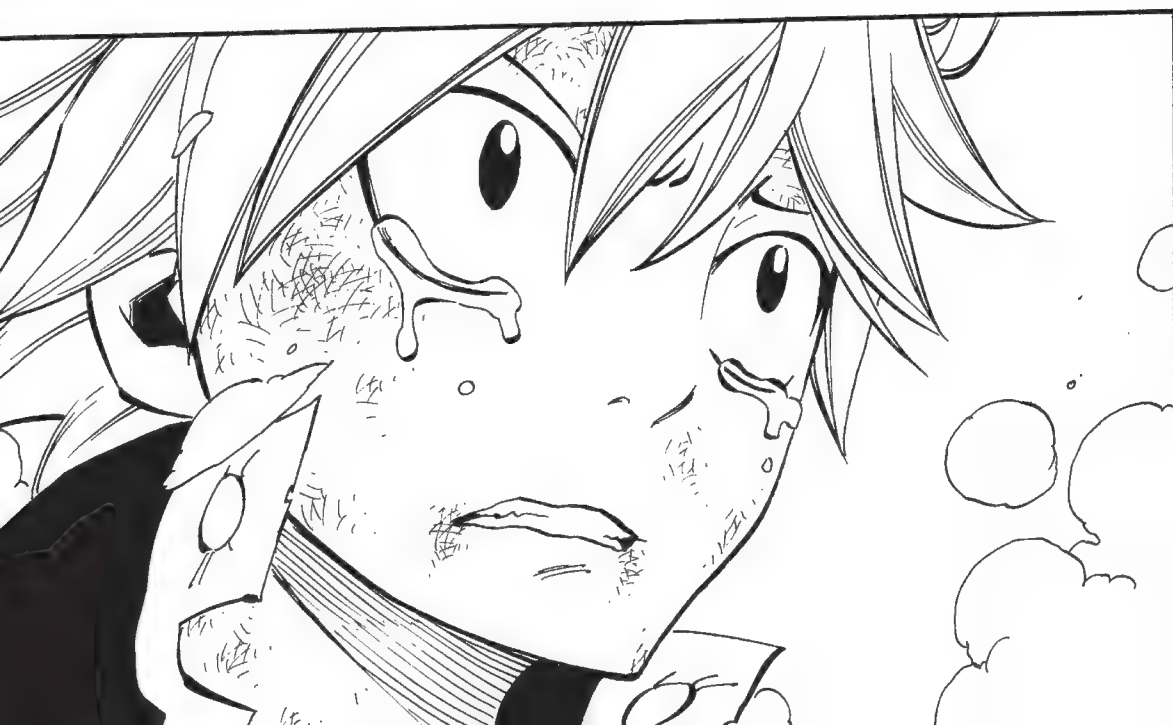


FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 401: Igneel vs. Acnologia





Dad...



That's Igneel...?

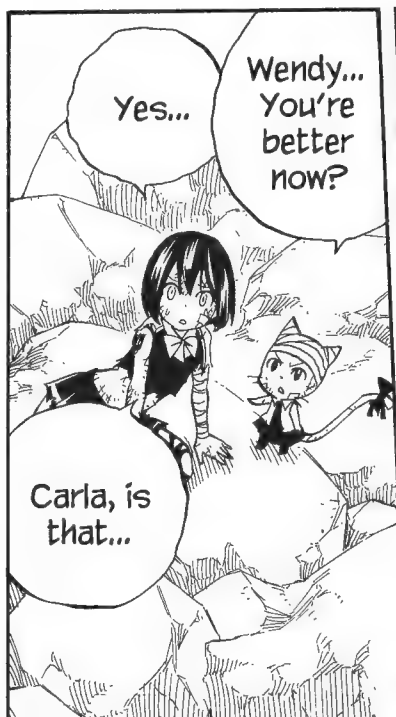


Gajeel... do
you think
you might
have...?



He was...
inside
Natsu's
body...?

H-How
can that
be...?



Yes...

Wendy...
You're
better
now?

Carla, is
that...



You
okay,
Rogue?

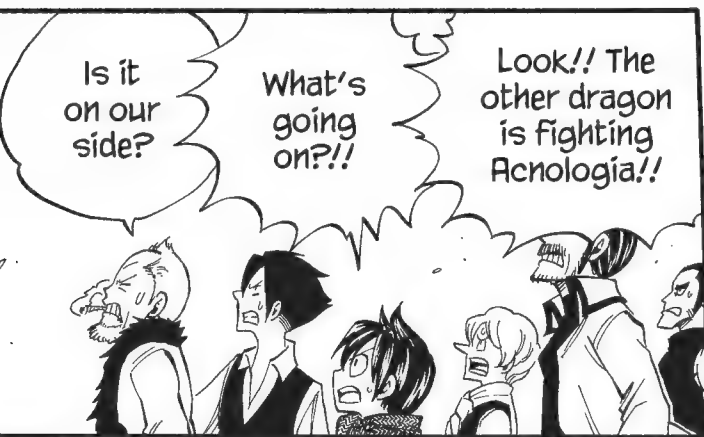
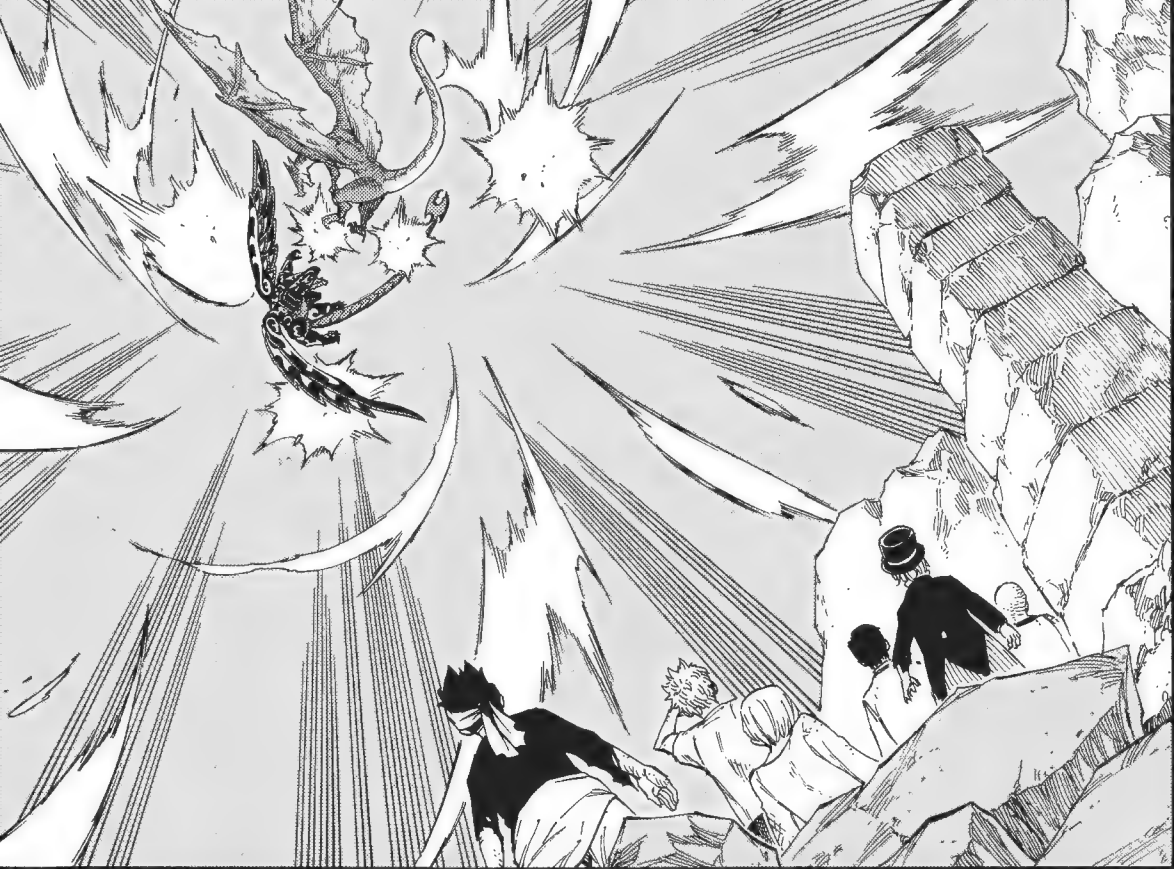
Yeah...
But what
happened to
the guy with
the book?



It
stopped...

HAHH

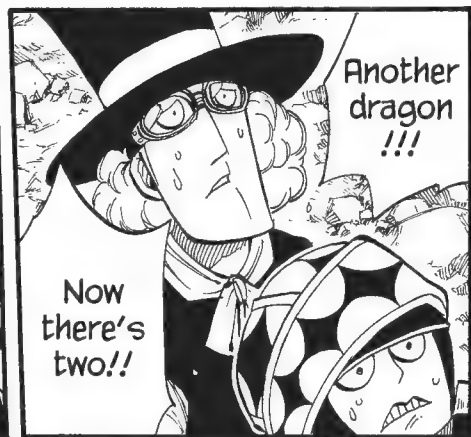
HAHH



Is it
on our
side?

What's
going
on?!!

Look!! The
other dragon
is fighting
Acnologia!!



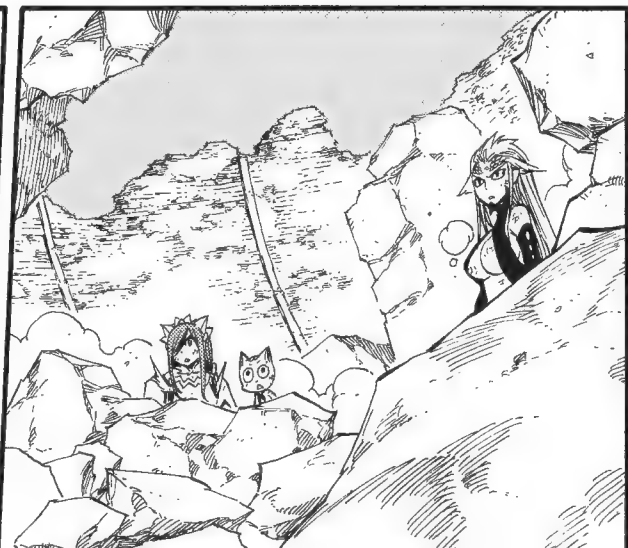
Another
dragon
!!!

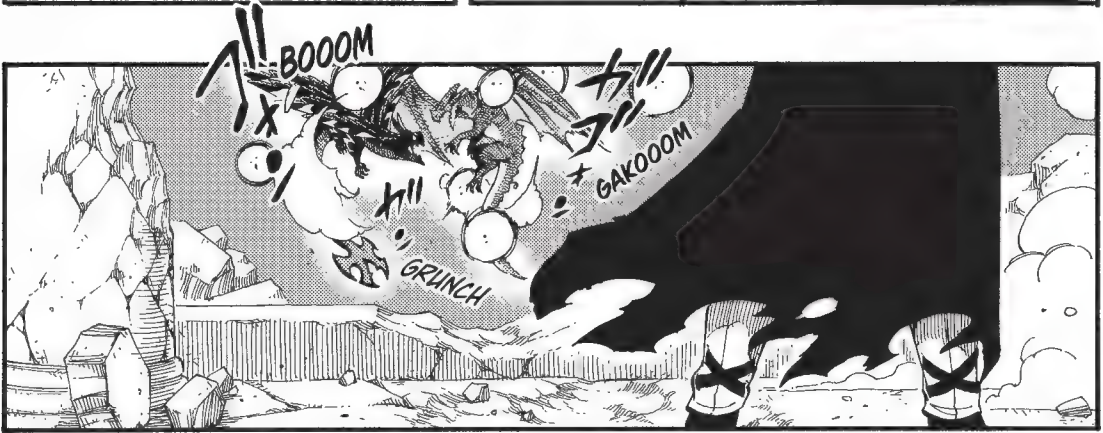
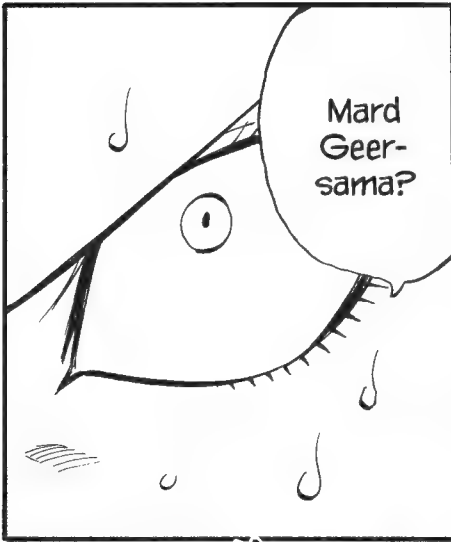
Now
there's
two!!



It
can't
be...

A fire
dragon
...

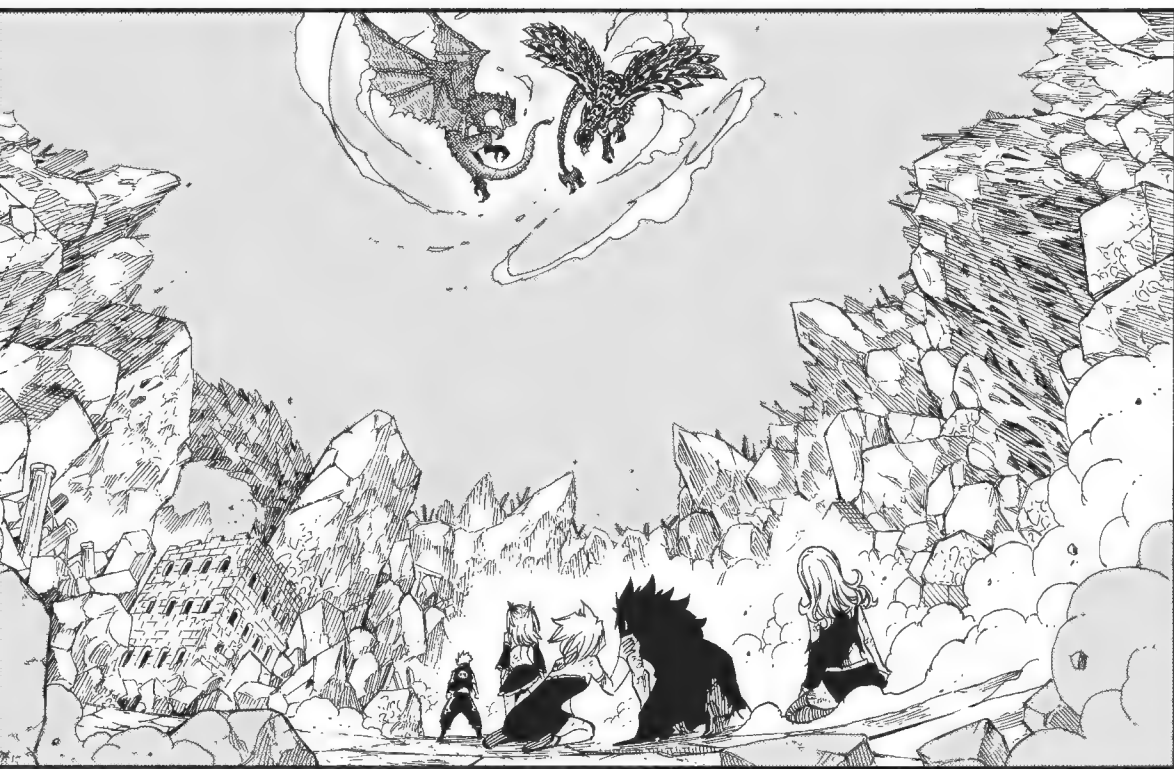






And it is *you*, forgotten breed, that will be destroyed this day!!

In fact, you have inspired me to improve upon them!



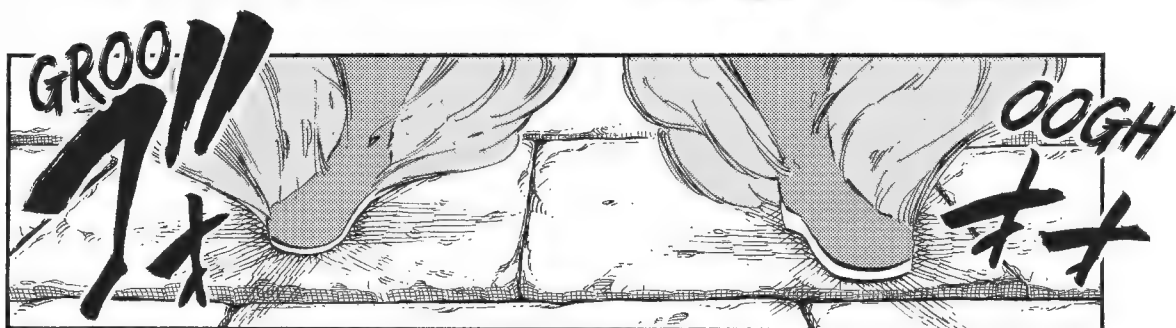
How was he *inside* you?!

Hey, Salamander!! Is that really Igneel up there?!



What is going on here?

Are you all right, Gajeel?



I ain't
gonna
take this
lying
down
!!!!



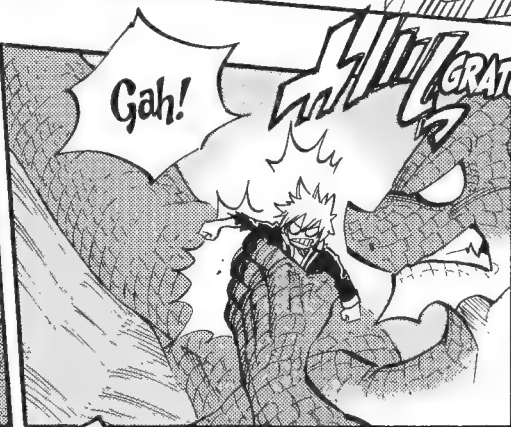


Shut
up!!!

WHOOSH



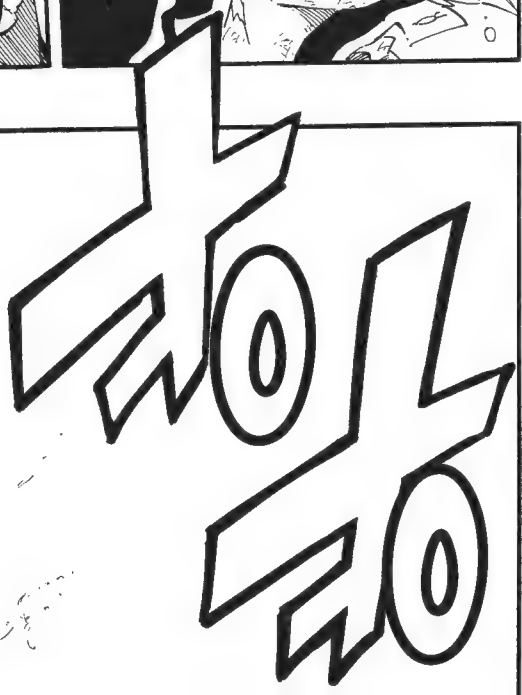
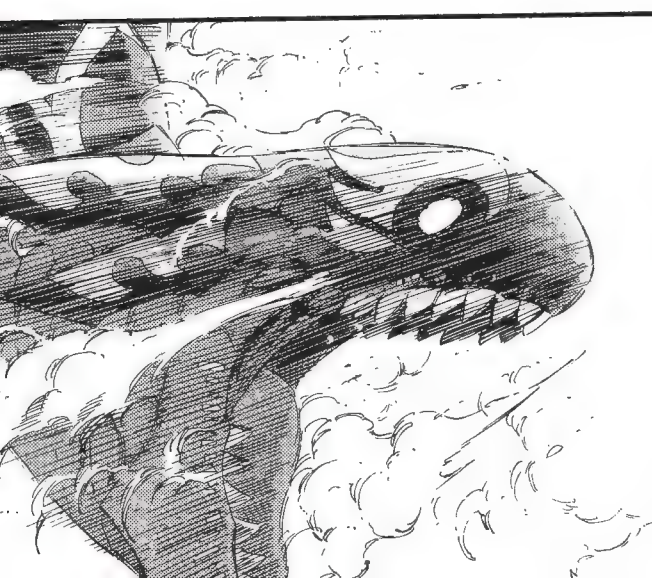
VWOOM



Gah!

GRATCH





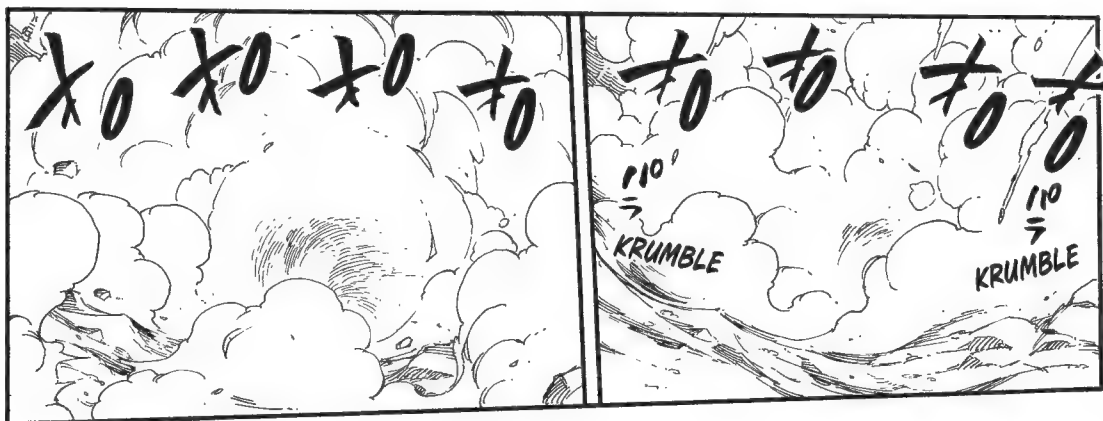




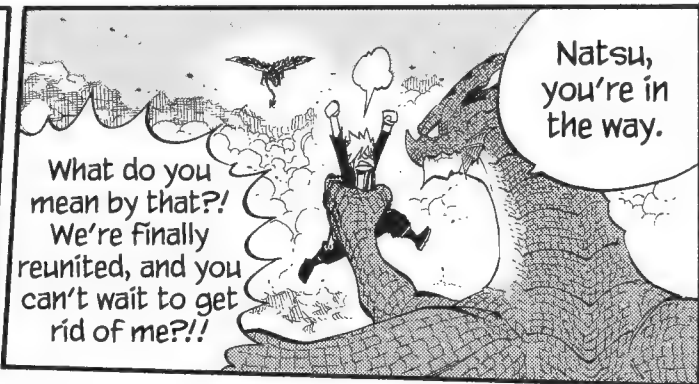
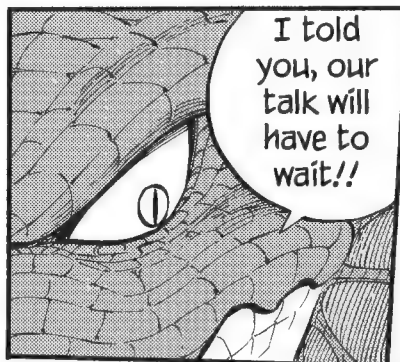
No...

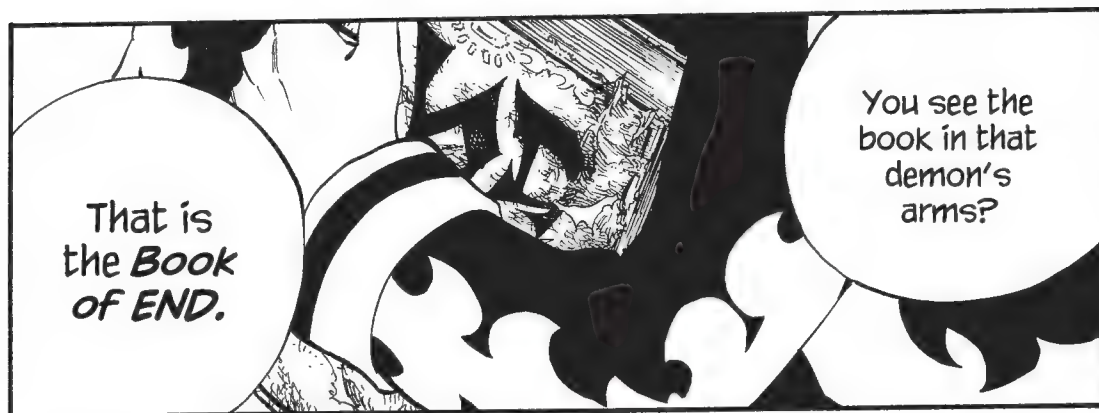
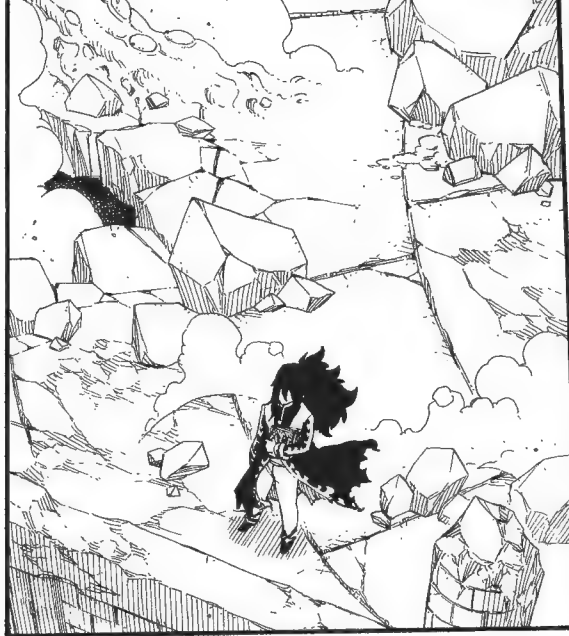
It didn't
even
scratch
him.

Th-
That was
awesome.



FWAR





Listen closely! You must not open the book!

Nor should you destroy it! You must simply steal it!

He's the one...

Besides, that demon is the one who orchestrated everything.

You must be eager to fight him!

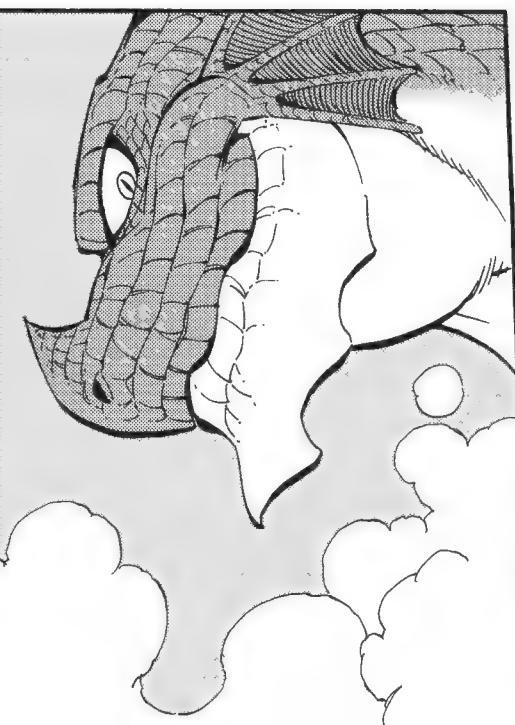
...

I will tell you everything you want to know.

What?!!

What's the pay?

If it's a job request, you gotta give me something for doin' it!



It's a deal !!!!

But you'd
better
keep your
promise
!!!!

You
stay
right
there
!!!!

Yes.

Remember,
you gave
your word
!!!!

You
got
it!!!!

Go,
Natsu
!!!!

WOOOON



Let's

do

**this
!!**

I'm

all

fired

...

...

444

...

**...up
!!!!**

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 402: The Fire Dragon's Iron Fist

Bridge Marker: Mashima Gardens











Ho?



I'm
takin'
that
book!!!

And I'm
gonna
stop Face
too!!!



So
you're
goin'
down
!!!!



VOOSH
VOOSH
VOOSH



WHOOSH





*Fire Dragon's

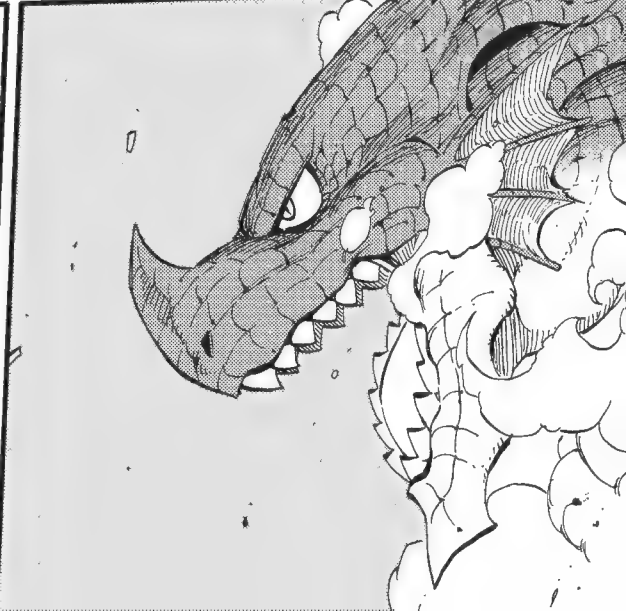
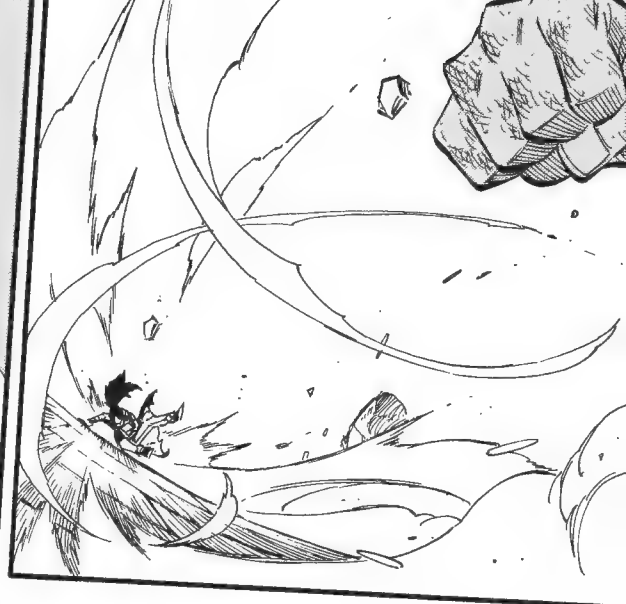


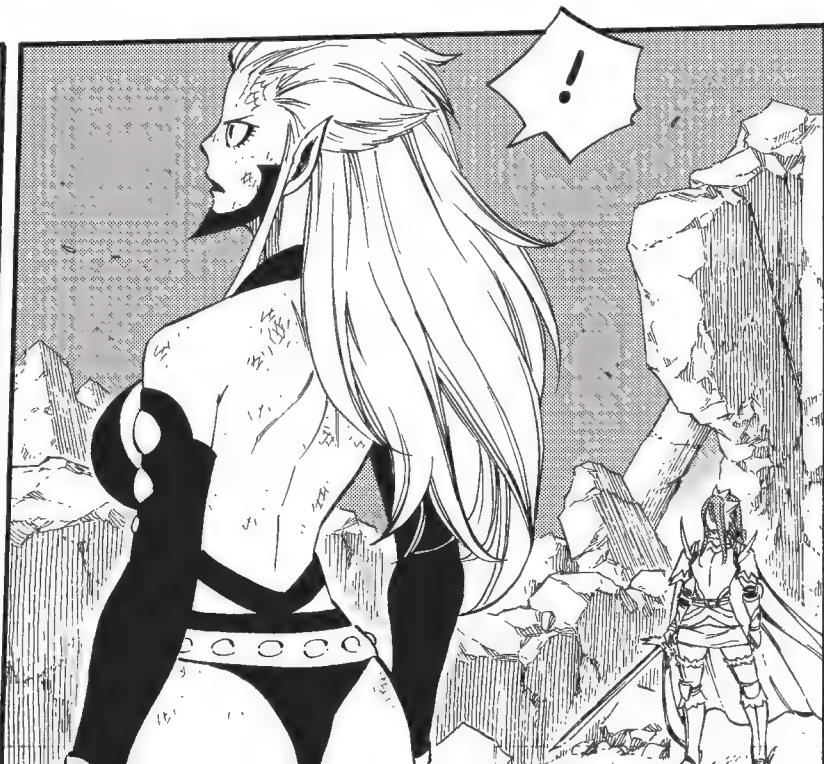
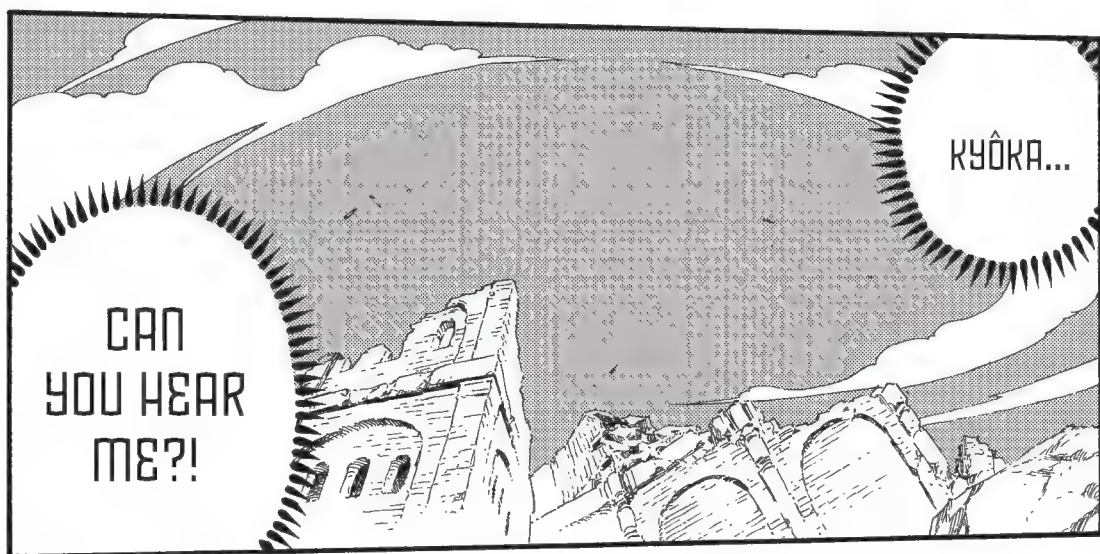


DO

...
TEKKEN*
!!!!!!

WHOO





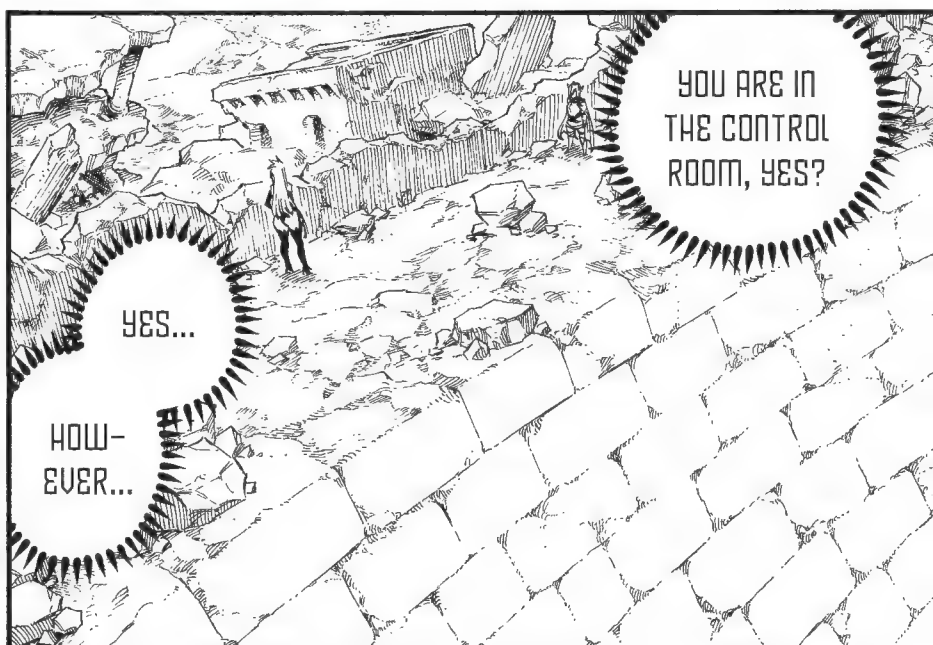


I HAVE DECIDED
TO DETONATE
THE FACE BOMBS
EARLY.

I WANT THESE
PECKY DRAGONS
OUT OF THE
WAY.



BOTH KEYES AND SEILAH
HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.
WE CAN NO LONGER
MANIPULATE THE
CHAIRMAN.



YES...

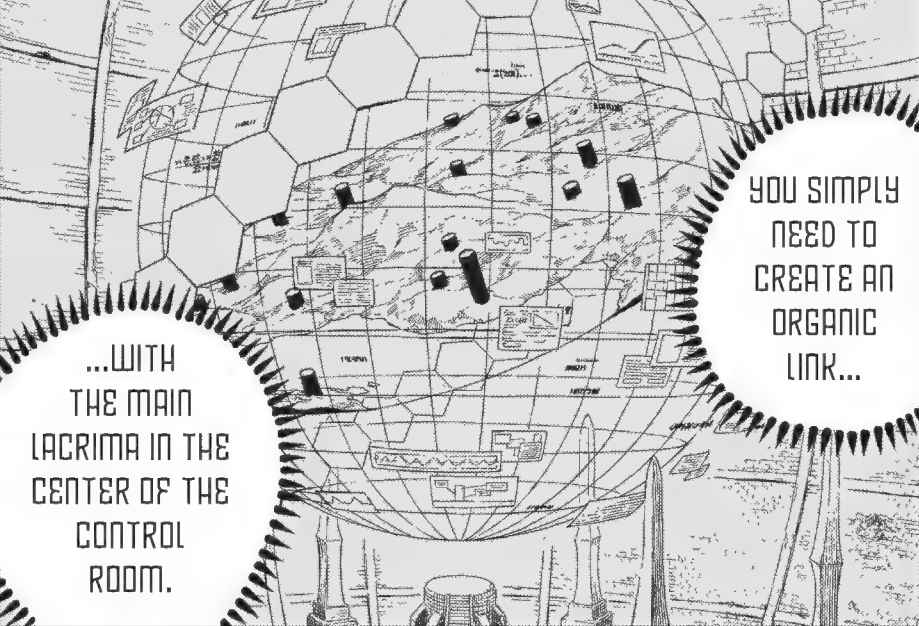
HOW-
EVER...

YOU ARE IN
THE CONTROL
ROOM, YES?



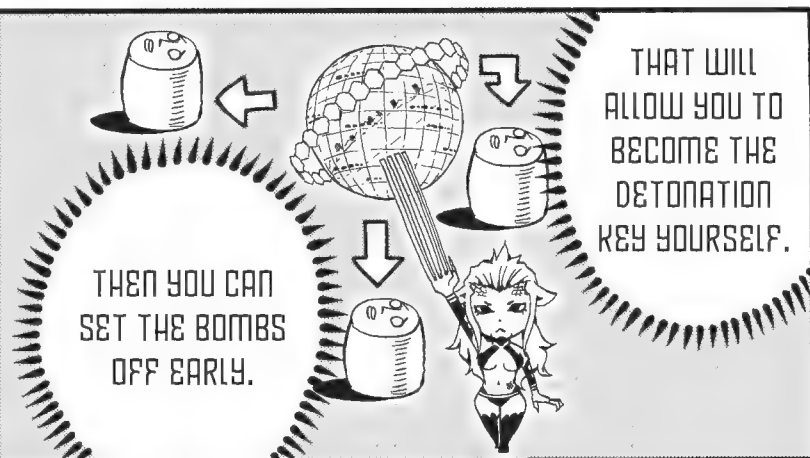
...AND YOU CAN
PROVIDE THAT
YOURSELF.

FEAR NOT! ALL
FACE NEEDS NOW
IS THE COMMAND
TO DETONATE
INSTANTLY...



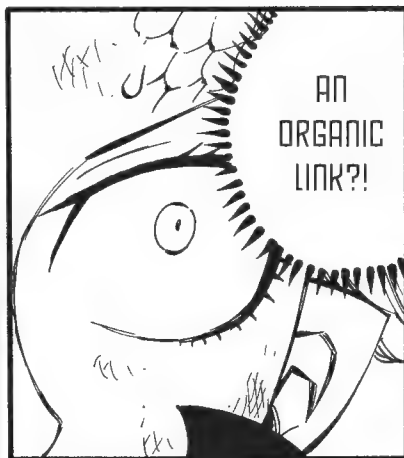
...WITH
THE MAIN
LACRIMA IN THE
CENTER OF THE
CONTROL
ROOM.

YOU SIMPLY
NEED TO
CREATE AN
ORGANIC
LINK...

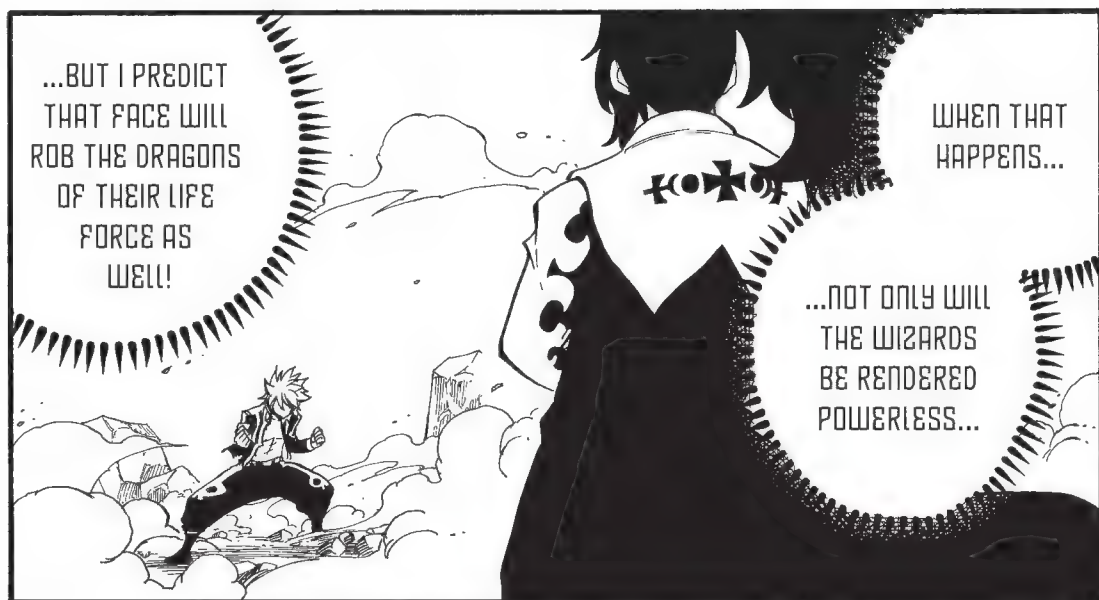


THEN YOU CAN
SET THE BOMBS
OFF EARLY.

THAT WILL
ALLOW YOU TO
BECOME THE
DETONATION
KEY YOURSELF.



AN
ORGANIC
LINK?!



...BUT I PREDICT
THAT FACE WILL
ROB THE DRAGONS
OF THEIR LIFE
FORCE AS
WELL!

WHEN THAT
HAPPENS...

...NOT ONLY WILL
THE WIZARDS
BE RENDERED
POWERLESS...



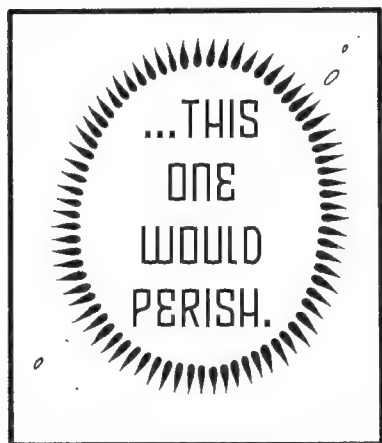
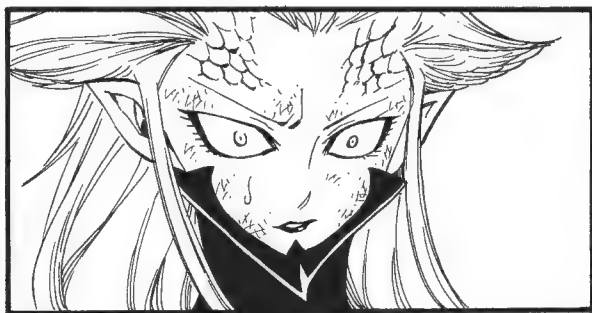
OUR
VICTORY
WILL BE
COMPLETE
!!!

AND MASTER
END WILL BE
REVIVED!!

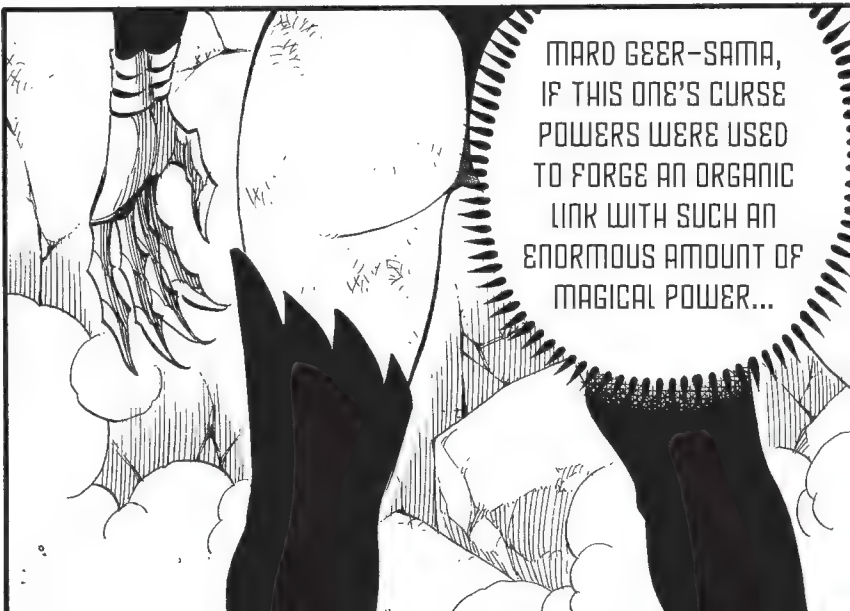


DO AS
I SAY!

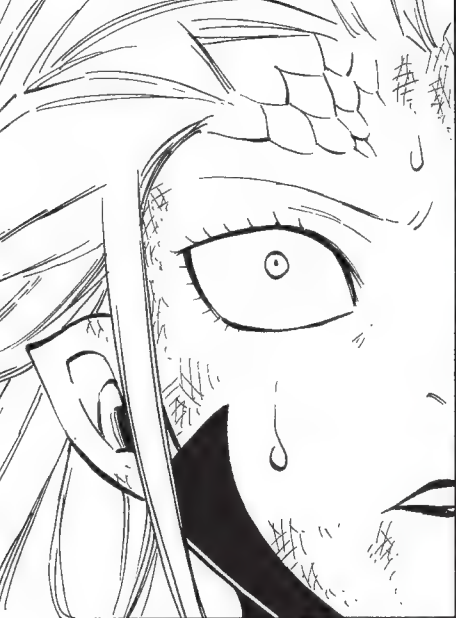
now...



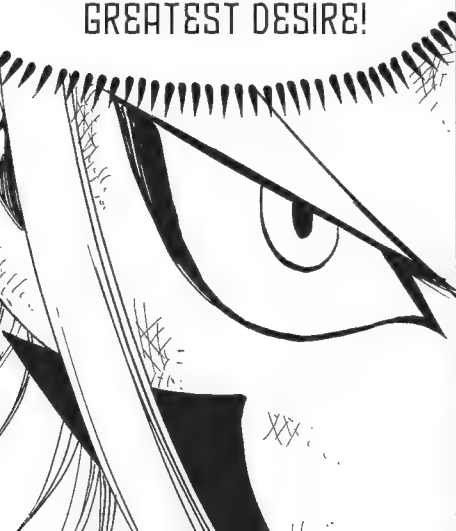
...THIS
ONE
WOULD
PERISH.



MARD GEER-SAMA,
IF THIS ONE'S CURSE
POWERS WERE USED
TO FORGE AN ORGANIC
LINK WITH SUCH AN
ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF
MAGICAL POWER...



NO. THIS ONE WILL
GLADLY LAY DOWN HER
LIFE IN SERVICE OF OUR
GREATEST DESIRE!



YES,
AND?

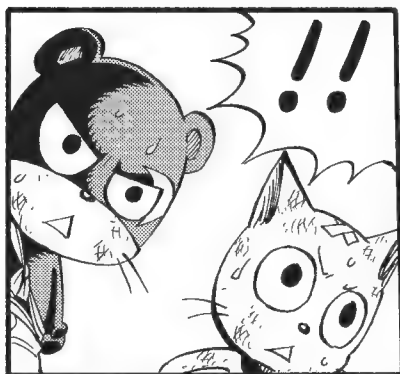
SO
YOU
FEAR
DEATH?



...FOR
ZEREF'S
SAKE!



IT IS
ALL...



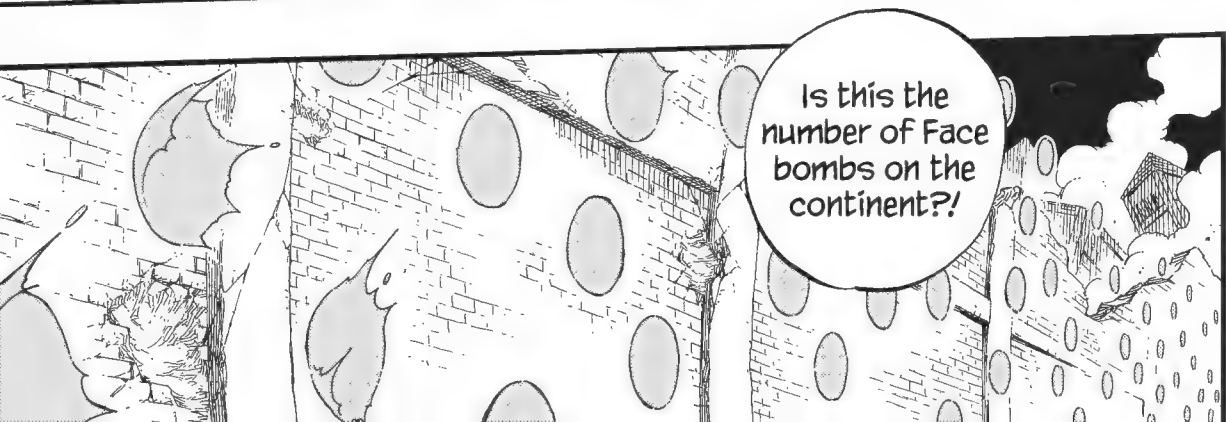
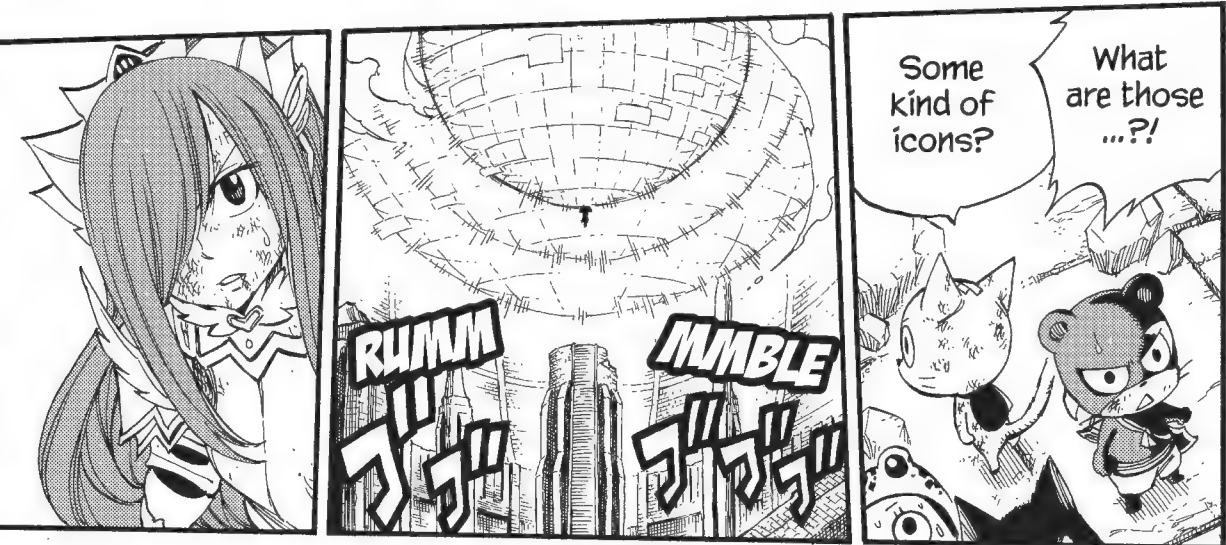
What
is she...
?!!



?!



GRUNCH






Organic link
complete!!

This one has
become one
with the Face
detonation
switch!!!



GRIN

Does she
intend to
set off the
Face bombs
early...?!


She
merged
with it?!


Why
would
she do
that?!

What
?!


*Though
this one
shall perish
regardless
of the
outcome.*

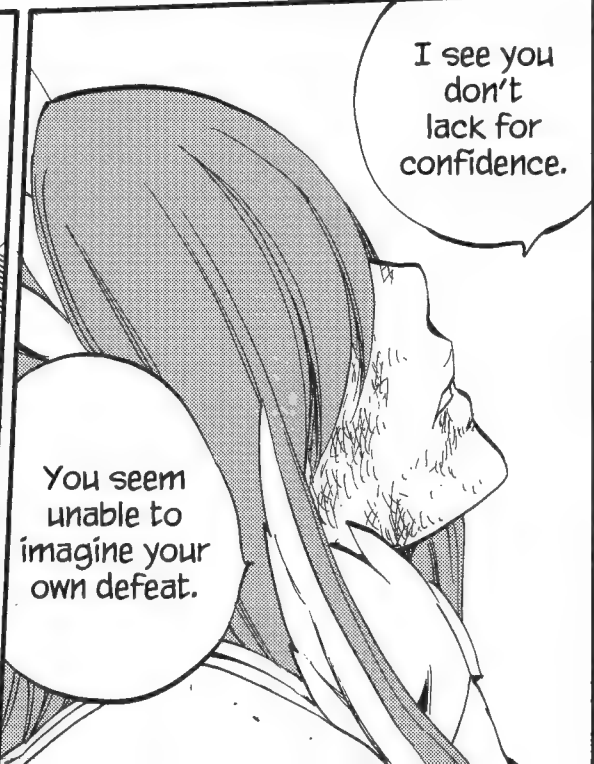
The only
way to
stop
the Face
bombs is
to kill this
one.


The
situation
has become
quite
simple.

VOOM


Indeed!

You do not
yet know
this one's
power...

You seem
unable to
imagine your
own defeat.


I see you
don't
lack for
confidence.

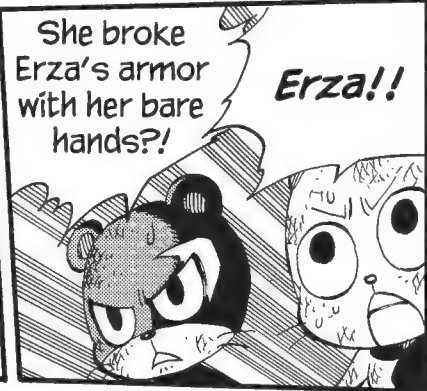
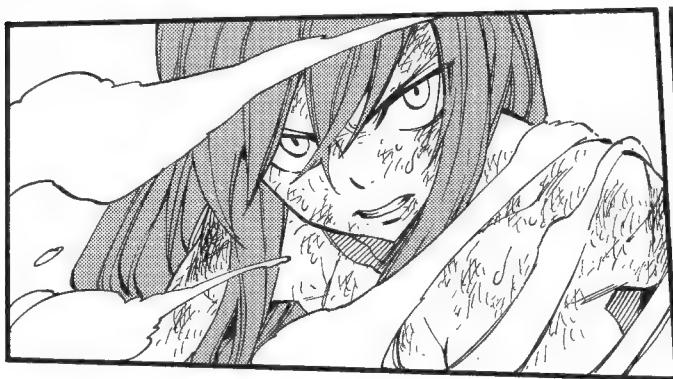


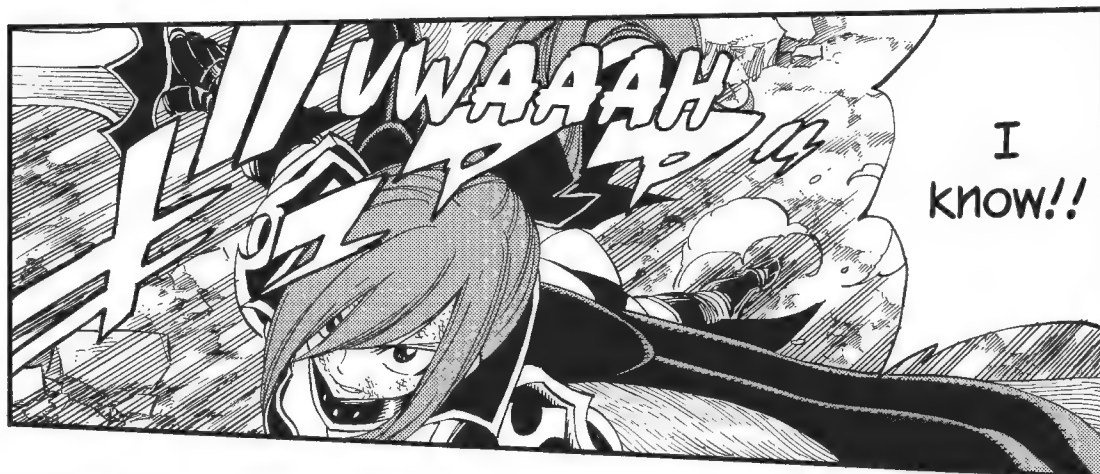
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 403: Erza vs. Kyôka



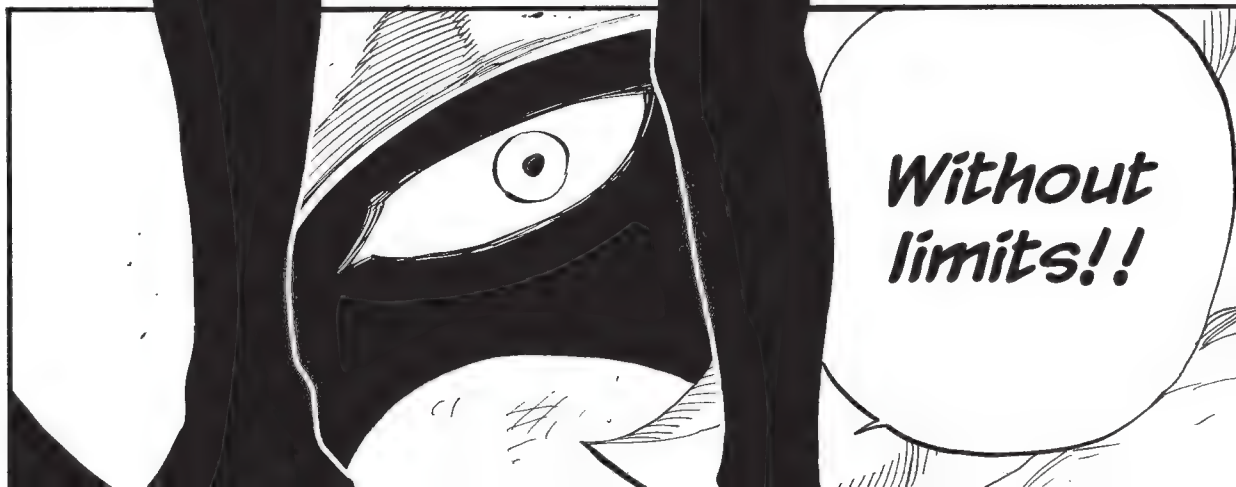






This one's
curse power
is strength
enhancement!

Every
second
sees this
one's
power
increase!



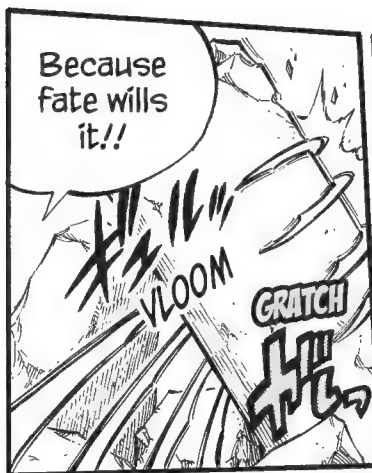
*Without
limits!!*





And earns
this one
Zeref's
favor...!!!

VOOSH



Because
fate wills
it!!

VLOOM

GRATCH



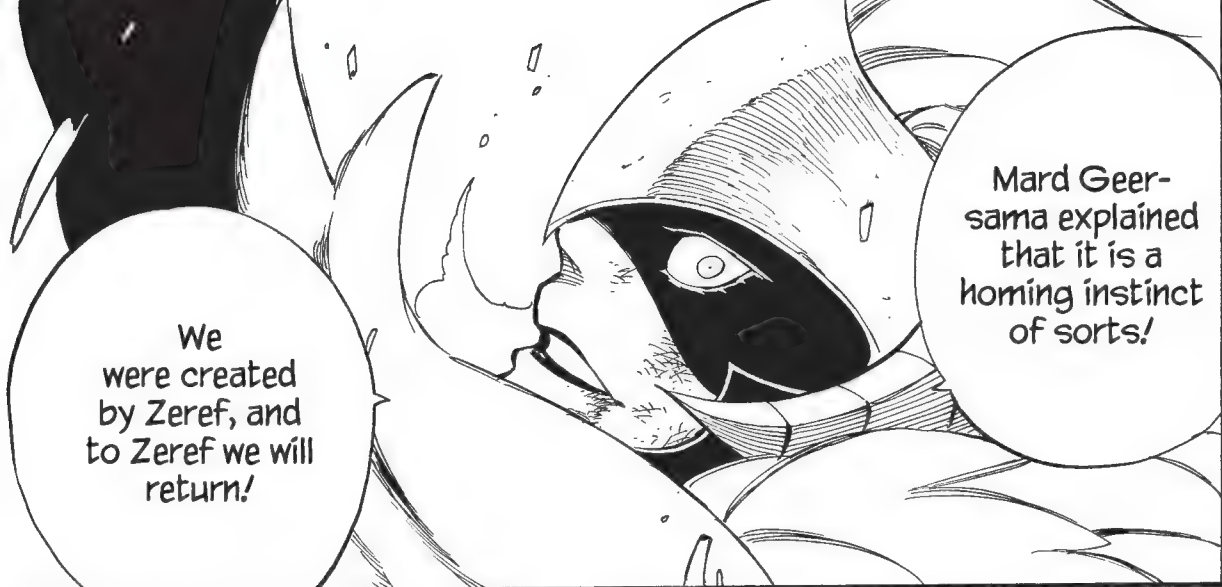
WHAM

Why would
you go that
far?!!



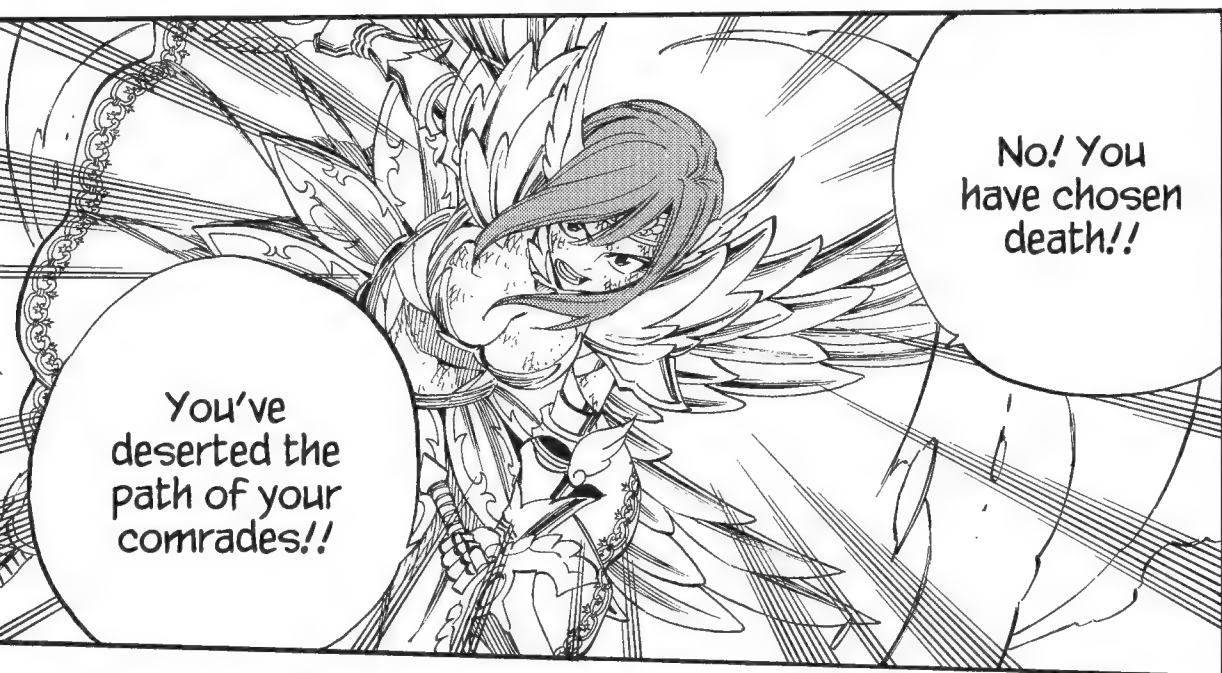
GAFOOM

All demons
written in the
Book of Zeref
share a destiny...
to return to
Zeref!!



We
were created
by Zeref, and
to Zeref we will
return!

Mard Geer-
sama explained
that it is a
homing instinct
of sorts!



You've
deserted the
path of your
comrades!!

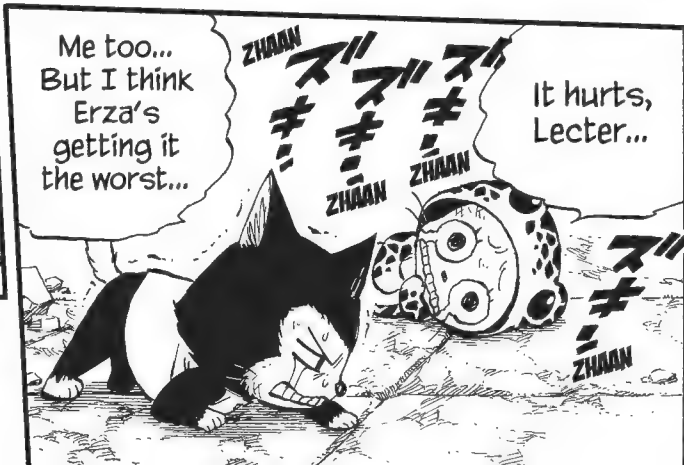
No! You
have chosen
death!!

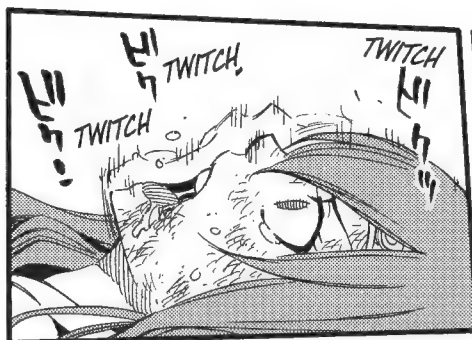


Silence
!!!!











Even Erza...
can be
broken...?

Is
this...
the
end...?



Stop
it!!



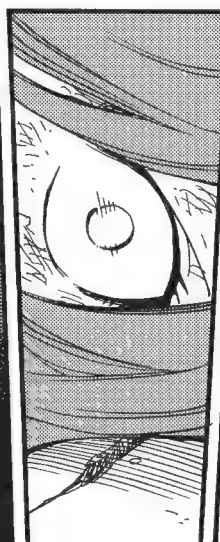
You must
show this one
more despair,
Erza!!



Ah ha
ha ha!!



Heh heh
heh...



First, to rob
you of your
sight...



And hearing.



No, please stop! Erza will die!! Waaah!



Taste!

Smell!

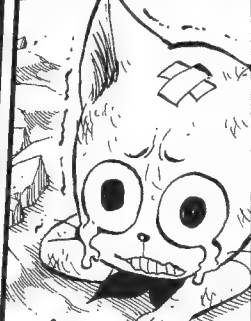


Then your sense of touch...



Our total
victory is at
hand!!!! Yes,
this one's
soul shall
depart, but
with it will go
humanity's
future!!!!

Ah ha
ha ha
ha ha
ha ha!!



And he shall
take his time
with you, day
in and day out,
wresting from
you each piece
of your body
and soul one by
one!!!!

GANCH

This one shall
not kill you!!!!
No, you shall
taste a suffering
much worse than
death!!!! This one
shall give you to
the Underworld
King as his
plaything!!!!



Tell this one
of the joy
you feel!!!
Ah ha ha ha
ha ha ha!!!

How this
one envies
you!! Ah
ha ha ha
ha ha!!

Is there
no greater
delight
?!!!



I can...
see...

What?

...
ee
...



The
light that
guides my
path!!!



No
matter what
you steal, there
is one thing
that cannot
be taken from
me...

!! GRNH
!!
!!



With all
her senses
gone...?

Sh-She
stood
up?!



Im...
possible...



Radiating
from the path
I walk with my
friends!

It illuminates
our way
forward!!!



Even
without
sight...
Without
hearing...

There is a
light within
me!!





TO BE CONTINUED

あとがき

Afterword

This volume contains Gajeel's backstory with Elder Belno. Actually I've had this bit of plot for a long time. The truth is I had this chapter where Elder Belno was the trigger that got Gajeel to join Fairy Tail, but since that changed to Makarov getting him to join, his story with Elder Belno was shelved, forever, I thought. Here, where all of the members and former members of the Council were involved, I thought that just possibly I could sneak that backstory in, but there was also the possibility that I couldn't follow up on it, so the chapter had to be simplified.

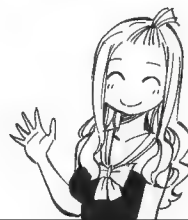
Now I wish I had done proper foreshadowing on it.

Personally, I love to drop little foreshadowing clues, but there are so many characters in this manga! Add to it the fact that I'm doing not only this weekly manga but a monthly too, and my mind is getting pretty messed up by it all (heh)! Plus, I'm getting these impossible requests to do one-shots on top of all that!

And so, I've dropped a bunch of foreshadowing hints that I won't be able to include (stories I'm no longer scheduled to do), and from here on, there will be a bunch more (including red herrings), so you'll probably see a whole lot of plots I'm trying to hint at.

In any case, I'm still looking forward to clearing up a whole bunch more mysteries, so please look forward to that!

EMERGENCY REQUEST! EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES OF F.T.!!



At a Magnolia ramen joint...

Lucy: Hi Everybody!

Mira: Okay, let's get straight to the questions!

Why did Mard Geer allow Silver in the Nine Demon Gates?



Lucy: It's true that he was a human to start with, and he even had demon slayer magic, which is magic specifically made to fight demons.

Mira: It was written about a little in the main story line, but I think it was Keyes who pushed for him to be in the group.

Lucy: He did mention that he knew Silver would betray him someday...

Mira: Maybe Mard Geer thought that having someone with demon slayer magic would prove how confident he was of his own abilities.

Lucy: He may also have been brought on as a deterrent to bad behavior among the Nine Demon Gates or the lower-level demons below them.

Mira: I imagine it was probably frightening for the Tartaros guild members to know that there was a demon slayer close at hand.

What does the 1/16 on Lummy's tie mean?



: Ah...so this question finally came.



: So it did. I thought nobody would bother to ask about it.

Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Lucy: I hear there are all sorts of explanations. Like there are sixteen Lummys or that she can only use 1/16th of her power...

Mira: But the real answer is so stupid, I don't even want to write it here.

Lucy: But we can't just ignore it, can we...?

Mira: Fine, but it will take a while to explain. Lummy is modeled after a member of Mashima-sensei's staff.



: Sigh...

Mira: And one day, she suddenly made a rather pointless announcement.

Lucy: Sigh...



"I AM 1/16TH RUSSIAN! : (WHADDYA THINK OF THAT?)"

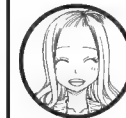
Lucy: Um... If 1/2 is half, and 1/4th is quarter, what is 1/16th ...???

Might as well just say she's fully Japanese.

Mira: Normally the story would just end with someone saying, "Really?" or, "Wow." But it was so sudden, and she put on such a, "What do you say to that?!" face! Still, it just slipped right on past the rest of the staff.



: You mean that Lummy's "slip-all" curse power was from that?



: Exactly! It came because the staff members let it slip by.

Lucy: The part about how she has a thing for hot guys too?

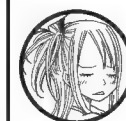
Mira: Of course!

Lucy: And that creepy "fa fa fa" laughter too?

Mira: All from that staff member.

Lucy: Come to think of it, she was a pretty impressive character!

Mira: And so, the real reason for the 1/16 tie was because she was 1/16th Russian.



: I kind of wish nobody had ever asked.

Mira: It wasn't just her. Kain Hikaru and Kinana were both modeled after staff members. And in a strange way, so was Gemini.

Lucy: Huh?!?

Mira: Their weird "piiri piiri" sound was taken from a member of the staff who, way back in grade school, remembered his whole school saying it at the time.

Lucy: I kind of wish nobody had ever asked.

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South 7th Floor, New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

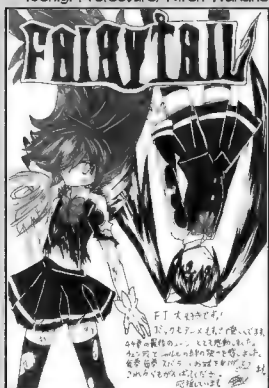
FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

It's an assembly of Fairy Tail members with Asuka at the center!!



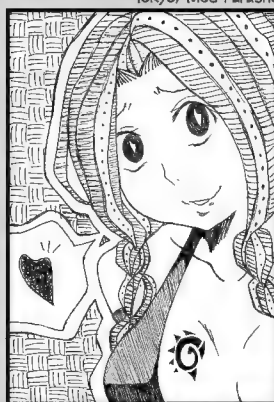
Tokyo, Misa Naka

Tochigi Prefecture, Riren Wakane



▲ There were a lot of people telling me how much they loved Wendy in Vol. 44!

Tokyo, Moe Furusho



▲ She's glaring... er... smiling at me, right?

Yamaguchi Prefecture, Hikaru Kaneshige



▲ Seilah, one of the prettiest of the demons, but she can be scary when angered!

Hokkaido, Omega ☆



▲ Wow! Cute! I love how round everybody is!

Fukuoka Prefecture, Minekure Shojo (twisted girl)



▲ This is the scene from Vol. 44 that you liked the best?!

Taiwan, Xian Yu-zhen



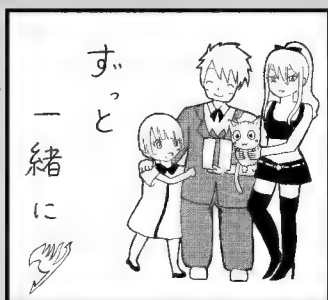
▲ What is the Underworld King's power anyway...?!



Here's Sting after quite a while. He's been maturing, huh?

Chiba Prefecture, Shun Yamagisawa

Osaka, Miyuki Hirano



▲ The Strauss family. Forever one big happy family!

Hyogo Prefecture, MEARI



▲ How did you all feel about Aquarius's scene in Vol. 45?

Chiba Prefecture, Haruka Iwagami



▲ Thanks for drawing so many! They're all so cute!

Saitama Prefecture, Chiharu Iiyama



▲ Everybody's a bee! And they're so amazingly cute!

Kagoshima Prefecture, Akari



▲ I think the composition of this one is really cute! Seilah and Kyoka are great!

Ishikawa Prefecture, Rabi



▲ Gildarts! I wonder where he is right now?



Hiroshima, Kotori Nakamoto

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.

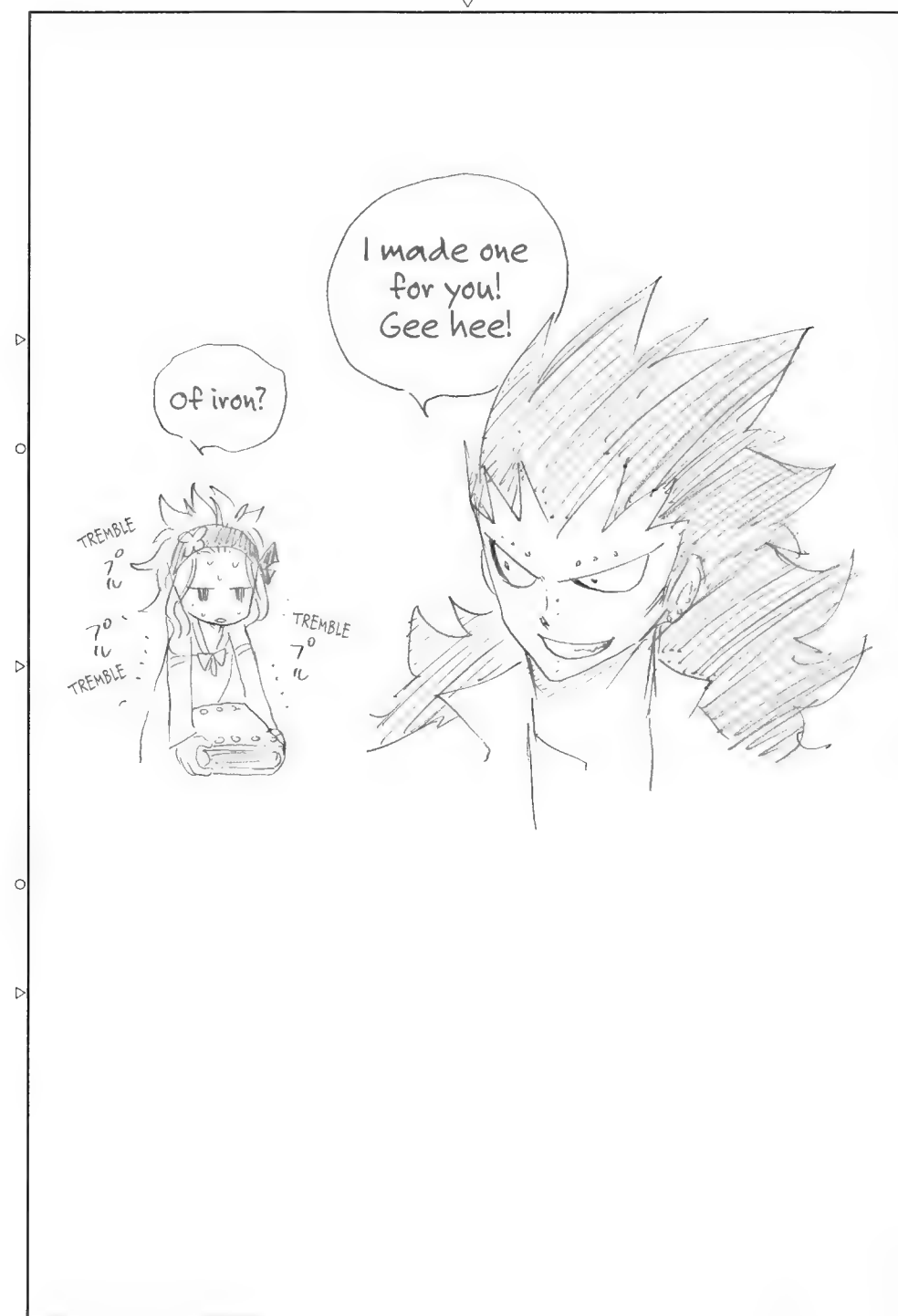
magical

フェアリーテイル

47



HIRO 真島ヒロ MASHIMA



Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 13, Etherious

Those of you who bought early printings or e-books of Volume 45, or followed the story when as it is published weekly online, might have noticed that the spelling for Etherious used to be spelled Aetherious. The spelling with an "A" was a mistake on my (the translator's) part. In a later chapter, it became obvious that Etherious is the more accurate spelling. We haven't come to that chapter yet in the graphic novels, so I don't want to spoil it for anyone, but the spelling was changed for a very good reason. I offer my apologies for the previous misspellings.

Page 59, Steel

Creating steel from iron isn't quite as easy as just adding some carbon. In reality, steel needs to be made by removing impurities through a number of different processes (open hearth furnace, the Bessemer process, or the basic oxygen furnace are three popular methods) and creating a consistent concentration of carbon (0.5% - 1.5%). Still, considering that Gajeel's iron is magic iron (and dragon magic at that) then we can probably assume there are few-to-no impurities. And considering the things Gajeel can do with the iron in his body, it's easy to imagine that he can manage to create a consistent carbon content throughout his own body.



Page 80, Zeref-kyô

As mentioned in the notes of Volume 26, there are a number of honorifics that are known to modern Japanese, but are not in common usage. One of the more uncommon, more polite honorifics is *-kyô*, which might be translated as "my lord."



FROM HIRO NASHIMA



I am completely hooked on the social game Fairy Tail Brave Saga. The modeling of the characters is so cute, and it's all so well done! I'm pretty sure that there will be more and more characters added, so I hope you all will be able to give it a try!!

Fairy Tail Brave Saga
Official Home Page
<https://www.taito.co.jp/fairytailbs>

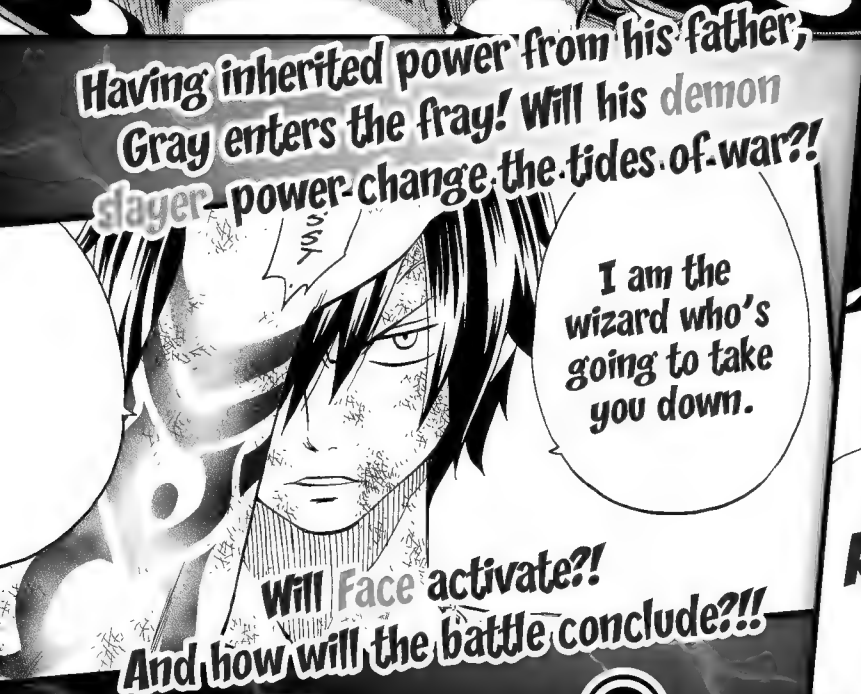


I will slay you, dragon!!

I recognize you as an enemy!

In a dragon-on-dragon struggle, humans would just be in the way!! The battle shakes the skies!!

WILL ROAR !!!



Having inherited power from his father, Gray enters the fray! Will his demon slayer power change the tides of war?!

I am the wizard who's going to take you down.

Will Face activate?!

And how will the battle conclude?!!

RAGE !!!

FAIRY TAIL
フェアリーテイル

48



THE FIRE DRAGON KING

Let's do this, Igneel !!!!

You have reawakened a long-forgotten sensation in Mard Geer.

Enraged and transfigured, Mard Geer! The battle with the Underworld King will rend the earth!!

NATSU IS FIRED UP !!!

ATTACK ON TITAN



**Winner
of a 2011
Kodansha Manga
Award**

Humanity has been decimated!

A century ago, the bizarre creatures known as Titans devoured most of the world's population, driving the remainder into a walled stronghold. Now, the appearance of an immense new Titan threatens the few humans left, and one restless boy decides to seize the chance to fight for his freedom, and the survival of his species!

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

DON'T MISS THE MOST ACCLAIMED ACTION MANGA OF 2013!

"Gripping doesn't begin to describe Vinland Saga. 5 stars."

—ICv2

"Deeply engrossing... If you have any interest at all in Vikings, the Medieval period, or pirates, this is not a series you want to miss."

—Anime News Network

"The art is gorgeous, a combination of beautiful cartooning and realistic backgrounds. Yukimura is also a master of pacing, both in frenetic battle scenes and charged emotional moments."

—Faith Erin Hicks, *Friends With Boys*

"For those who love Berserk, you'll love this too... Worth the long wait."

—A Case Suitable for Treatment

"It will be impossible to stop watching this story unfold."

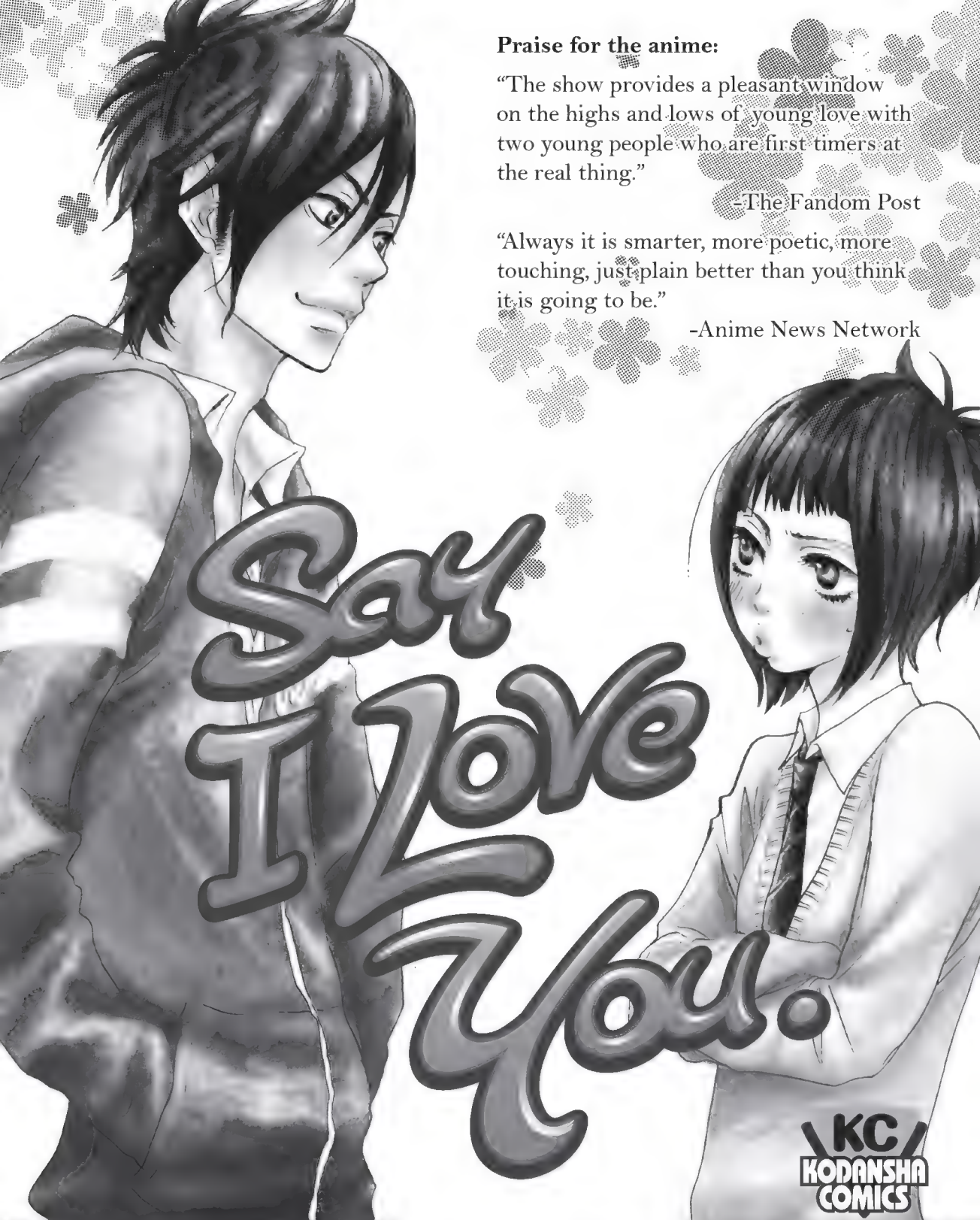
—Japan Media Arts Awards jury



A VIKING EPIC FROM THE
AUTHOR OF "PLANETES"

VINLAND SAGA

AVAILABLE NOW IN HARDCOVER



Praise for the anime:

"The show provides a pleasant window on the highs and lows of young love with two young people who are first timers at the real thing."

-The Fandom Post

"Always it is smarter, more poetic, more touching, just plain better than you think it is going to be."

-Anime News Network

Say I Love You.

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

Mei Tachibana has no friends — and says she doesn't need them!

But everything changes when she accidentally roundhouse kicks the most popular boy in school! However, Yamato Kurosawa isn't angry in the slightest — in fact, he thinks his ordinary life could use an unusual girl like Mei. But winning Mei's trust will be a tough task. How long will she refuse to say, "I love you"?

SANKAREA

undying love

**"I ONLY
LIKE
ZOMBIE
GIRLS."**



Chihiro has an unusual connection to zombie movies. He doesn't feel bad for the survivors – he wants to comfort the undead girls they slaughter! When his pet passes away, he brews a resurrection potion. He's discovered by local heiress Sanka Rea, and she serves as his first test subject!

PRAISE FOR THE ANIME!

"This series never fails to put a smile on my face."

-Dramatic Reviews

"A very funny look at what happens when two strange and strangely well-suited people try to navigate the thorny path to true love together."

-Anime News Network



OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster." Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends. Fate brings these two together to form the most unlikely pair. Haru firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes he's insane.

NO.6

A PERFECT LIFE IN A PERFECT CITY

For Shion, an elite student in the technologically sophisticated city No. 6, life is carefully choreographed. One fateful day, he takes a misstep, sheltering a fugitive his age from a typhoon. Helping this boy throws Shion's life down a path to discovering the appalling secrets behind the "perfection" of No. 6.

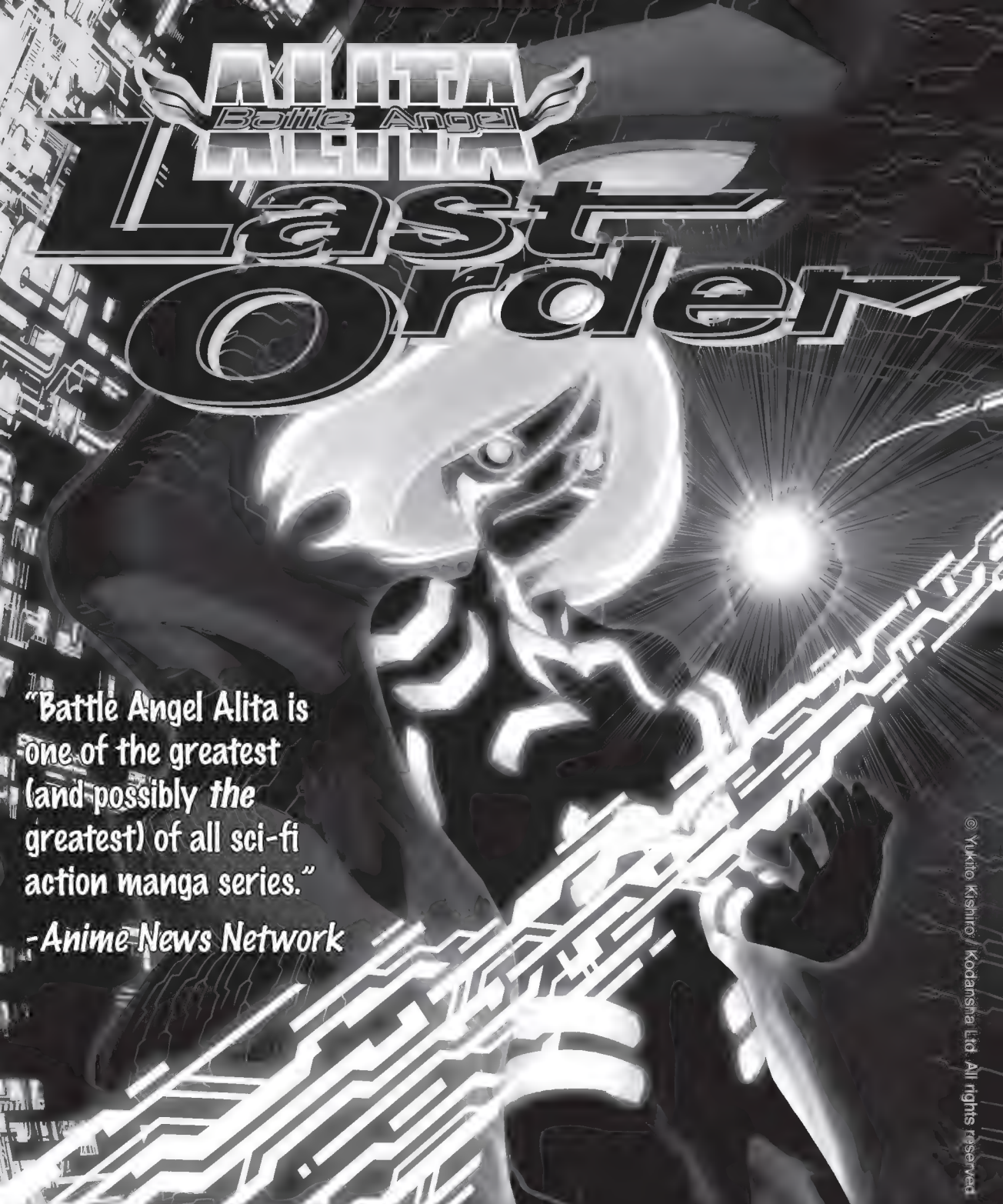
SHERLOCK BONES

KG
KODANSHA
COMICS

DEDUCTIVE DOG DETECTIVE

When Takeru adopts a new pet, he's in for a surprise—the dog is none other than the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes. With no one else able to communicate with Holmes, Takeru is roped into becoming Sherdog's assistant, John Watson. Using his sleuthing skills, Holmes uncovers clues to solve the trickiest crimes. 🐾





"Battle Angel Alita is
one of the greatest
(and possibly *the*
greatest) of all sci-fi
action manga series."

-Anime News Network

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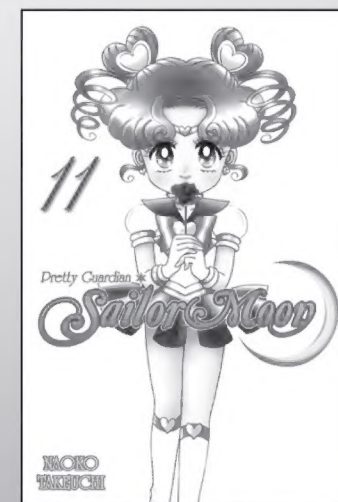
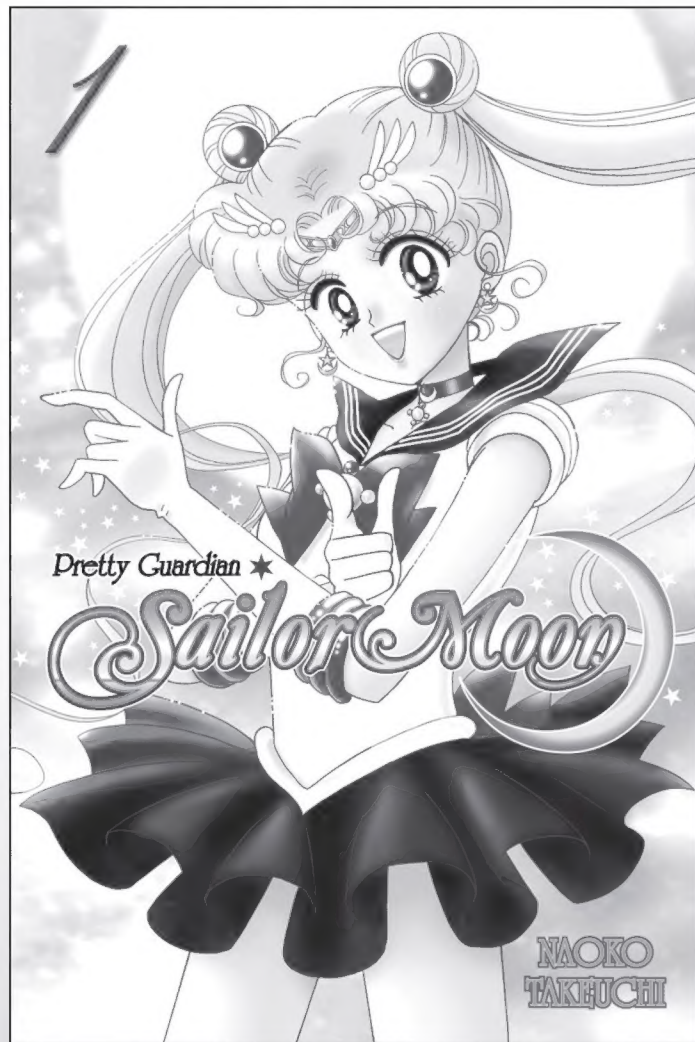
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MARDOCK

マルドゥック・スクランブル

SCRAMBLE

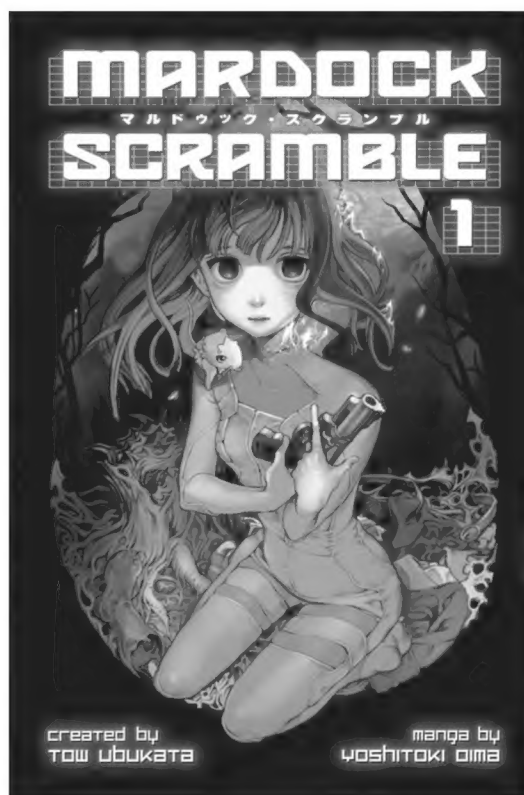
**Created by
Tow Ubukata**



**Manga by
Yoshitoki Oima**

“I’d rather be dead.”

Rune Balot was a lost girl with nothing to live for. A man named Shell took her in and cared for her...until he tried to murder her. Standing at the precipice of death Rune is saved by Dr. Easter, a private investigator, who uses an experimental procedure known as “Mardock Scramble 09.” The procedure grants Balot extraordinary abilities. Now, Rune must decide whether to use her new powers to help Dr. Easter bring Shell to justice, or if she even has the will to keep living a life that’s been broken so badly.



Ages: 16+



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